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# WELCOME TO VOLUNTEER MAGAZINE

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With a large number of entries, it was difficult to pick a winning shot!

Front cover image taken by Ashley Hosking, Baskett Range CFS at a house fire at Norton Summit.

**Managing Editor:** Lisa Lalic Tel 08 8463 4214 **Editor:** Krista St John Tel 08 8463 4289 Assisted by: Brenton Ragless, Matt Bonser, Phil McDonough and Heidi Geytenbeek. If you would like to contribute to *Volunteer*... **Send your photos and stories to:** The Editor, Volunteer Magazine, GPO Box 2468, Adelaide SA 5001 or email: [publicaffairs@cfs.org.au](mailto:publicaffairs@cfs.org.au) Don't forget to include your name, address or brigade and a contact phone number. Photographs can be supplied digitally (min 1024x768 @ >300dpi) or as original prints, negatives or slides. Text can be supplied as hard copy or electronically as a Microsoft Word or Notepad document. **Deadline for next issue: 27 October 2006.** *Volunteer* is published by Boylen Publishing. Comments and opinions expressed in *Volunteer* do not necessarily represent the views of the CFS. *Volunteer* is free to all CFS volunteers.

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# Welcomes

## [ CHIEF OFFICER EUAN FERGUSON ]

**W**ith the passing of the shortest day it is time to turn our thoughts to the upcoming fire season.

Recently the Bureau of Meteorology briefed us and highlighted that much of South Australia had received below average or very much below average rainfall over the last three months.

It is clear that in much of South Australia (indeed in south east Australia), we have a rainfall deficit and there is a possibility that the fire season may start early.

With this in mind, I'd like to share with you two important initiatives that we are putting in place:

The first is a requirement for **all firefighters** to undertake a bushfire survival / burnover drill.

In the last two to three seasons, I have been concerned at the number of burnovers that are occurring. If there is one thing I do not enjoy, it is going into the Burns Unit at the Royal Adelaide Hospital to visit burnt and injured CFS firefighters.

When a burnover happens, there is little time to prepare and think. Having drilled the burnover procedure and become familiar with it prior to each fire season is good common sense.

The burnover drill will be assessed locally (by another senior firefighter or above) and will preferably be done in a crew environment.

The burnover drill supports our safety catchcry '**SAFETY FIRST – Come home safe**' and will this season will be supported with a pocket-sized card that can be used as a ready reference for safety during burnover situations.

The second initiative is the extension of the concept of 'pre-formed' Incident Management Teams (IMTs).

During the 2005-2006 fire season we pre-formed and provided initial team-based training to two trial Level 3 IMT's. These teams were comprised of CFS and SES

volunteers and paid staff and DEH and ForestrySA staff.

The trial was an outstanding success. I must thank those personnel who gave of their time and skills.

Over the next 12 months we hope to form two more Level 3 IMTs, focussing on the Lower South East and the Riverland-Murray-Mallee districts.

In addition to the Level 3 IMTs we hope to develop at least two pre-formed Level 2 IMTs for each of our six regions.

"Why?" you may ask. Since the Wangary fire we have become aware that many groups do not have the number or capacity of people to fulfil all the roles of a Level 2 IMT.

Additionally, recent research has shown that, given the dynamic and critical environment that IMT members operate under, it is far better that team members know each other and train and work with each other as much as possible before being put into a high pressure situation.

Recently CFS conducted its inaugural Volunteer Summit, where more than 150 volunteers representing men and women of all ages from across the state came together for a busy two days.

For me, the Summit was a wonderful opportunity to listen to volunteers workshop their problems and issues and discuss positive ways to overcome them.

One of the elements of the summit was the formation of recommendations to address the issues and challenges that come from being a CFS volunteer in this day and age.

These recommendations are important and I am in the process of responding to each of them, however my view already is that these recommendations will underpin an important part of our approach for the next 12 to 24 months.

In many cases, the recommendations complement work already underway from Project Phoenix.

As I write, the Coronial Inquest into the Wangary fire continues.

Many CFS volunteers and some staff have already given their evidence to this very important court.

To all who have done so, I thank you for the time and effort and the care that you have taken to tell your story as it was.

We are all looking forward to the recommendations so that we can get on with our job of protecting the community.

There are many challenges facing CFS at the moment. Workloads and the onus on volunteers make our job much more complex and difficult than it has ever been in the past.

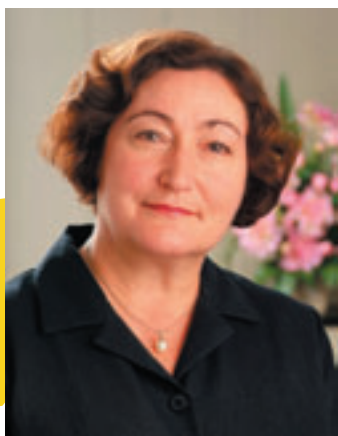
However, there are still immense rewards from the work we do in the community.

I attend many functions around the state and within government and one thing I know for sure is that the work done by all CFS volunteers really is appreciated by both the community at the grass roots and by leaders in governments and the community.

You continue to do wonderful work that is essential.

On behalf of a grateful community:  
*"Thank you!"*





## **MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES** **Hon. Carmel Zollo**

**A**utumn and winter have been eventful, to say the least, and right in the thick of it our volunteers demonstrated yet again how diverse and at times dangerous their work is.

Everyone in the State was shocked by the tragic loss of life as a result of the explosion near Gladstone.

The contribution from our volunteers, as always, was invaluable and I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for a job well done, in dreadful circumstances.

I'm glad to say there are plenty of positive events to look back on as well.

A big congratulations to Blackwood CFS, which won the title of 'best rescue unit in the State' at the SA Road Crash championship held in early April.

This 'friendly rivalry' also included teams from the SA Metropolitan Fire Service, State Emergency Service and other teams across South Australia who competed against each other in mock accidents to see which team could rescue a victim the fastest by using different rescue equipment.

The Australasian Rescue Challenge in July was also something of a coup for our emergency services. Despite their best efforts, the two brigades that represented the CFS did not receive a placing, however their efforts deserve to be recognised.

On 4 May, International Firefighters Day, we officially acknowledged the work of our volunteer and paid fire fighters.

It was an occasion tinged with sadness, as firefighters paused to remember colleagues throughout the world who have died in the line of duty.

Sadly, since 1979, 13 CFS volunteers have lost their lives fighting fires.

But despite the dangers and difficulties they face, the commitment and dedication from our volunteers continues to shine through.

The very next night I was present as two CFS volunteers, William Tascott and David Korean, of the Mt

Pleasant Brigade received the Second Clasp for their National Medals in May – in recognition of more than 35 years of service each.

They joined the list of the State's longest serving CFS members and there are plenty of others following in their footsteps – a total of 42 volunteers from 83 brigades in Region Two received either National Medals or clasps at the annual awards presentation at Gawler.

I was also delighted to make the trip to Lobethal to commission three vehicles and officially open the new shed that will service both the Lobethal CFS and the Onkaparinga SES.

The weather was chilly, but the welcome warm – and I was pleased to see the volunteers have a facility they can be extremely proud of.

I whole-heartedly enjoy these face-to-face meetings with our volunteers and to reassure them that this government, as with previous governments, has a strong commitment to them.

We're committed to fostering a modern, well-resourced firefighting service so volunteers can continue their work safely and efficiently.

We also value feedback from our volunteers – and there was ample opportunity for just that at the July Volunteer's Summit at Fort Largs.

A first for the CFS, the Summit had a strong focus on recruitment of future volunteers, retention, developing future roles for women and youth, and working closely with local communities.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to remind volunteers that the Volunteer Management Branch, set up by the Rann Government as part of the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission (SAFECOM), provides ongoing assistance and support.

This year seems to be passing very quickly and before we know it, another fire danger season will be upon us.

It's a time when resources are paramount, along with awareness in the community of the part they can play in preparing for and dealing with bushfires.

Last summer's CFS campaigns went a long way in boosting public awareness and I can only hope that this summer there is well-deserved support for the vital role our volunteers play in protecting the community.

Those efforts certainly don't go unnoticed by the Government – so once again, my heartfelt thanks for a job well done!



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VOLUNTEER - WELCOMES





## **SAVFBA PRESIDENT Ken Schutz AFSM**

I had the opportunity to attend the SA Country Fire Service (CFS) Volunteer Summit at the

beginning of July and I would like to congratulate our Chief Officer, Euan Ferguson, Mick Ayre and the Summit committee for a terrific conference.

The 150 CFS volunteers at the Summit were a representative cross-section of volunteers from cadets to group officers, male/female, auxiliary and operational. Many of those who attended do not normally have the opportunity to get their point of view heard by senior personnel within CFS.

For me personally, it was an opportunity to speak with many volunteers that I have never met before and probably would not get the chance to do so if it were not for the Summit.

While speaking to volunteers and listening to their concerns, it highlighted to me that we have many talented volunteers within the CFS, many of whom have great ideas that we never get the chance to embrace.

The Summit incorporated a number of workshops, with one of the workshops focusing specifically on leadership.

Some of the issues arising from this workshop included the need for succession planning, the need for support for our leaders and the role of current leaders in mentoring future leaders and choosing the right person for the right job.

I would encourage all current volunteer leaders in the CFS to capture the talent that is out there, work with them and think strongly about succession planning. As much as we don't like to think about it, we all have a use by date and it's important that we recognise this and prepare for the future.

This also applies to CFS staff. By using the skills of the right volunteers I'm sure that parts of their jobs could be made easier.

There are a number of papers circulating the regions at the moment for comment.

One of these is a paper, which CFS, SAVFBA and volunteers have jointly published, is regarding election and selection of CFS volunteer officers.

While I am not going to make comment on the paper for fear of influencing the outcome, I would encourage volunteers to make comment.

Some of the other papers currently circulating for comment include the CFS Customer Service Standards Charter, CFS Leadership Charter, Brigade owned vehicles draft policy, and the Reimbursement of expenses, honorariums and allowances (draft version 2).

Many of the above mentioned papers can be found on new the SAVFBA website [www.savfba.org.au](http://www.savfba.org.au)

As new papers are released for comment, the SAVFBA will be placing them on the website for ease of distribution. The website also boasts the facility for volunteers to make comment on these papers, with the comments being forwarded to the appropriate person or committee.

The SAVFBA is part of many CFS committees putting forward the overall opinions of CFS volunteers.

One of the great concerns not just for these committees but also for many volunteers, has been the potential loss of our CFS heritage.

To ensure the preservation of our history, the SAVFBA and the CFS have together set up a new committee called the CFS Heritage Working Party.

Rex Hall, an Executive Member of the SAVFBA and South East Branch President, is Chairman of the Working Party and is asking all volunteers who are interested in helping, or anyone who has an item and/or vehicle that they would like to donate, to contact him or the other Working Party members.

A more comprehensive article on the working party can be found on page 24.

The SAVFBA is currently involved with other committees and working parties focusing on a review of Standards of Fire and Emergency Cover (SFEC), Structural Firefighting Review Working Party, Bushfire Firefighting Review Working Party, Enhanced Mutual Aid Working Party, Vehicle and Building Scoping Workshops.

If you would like to know more about any of the above initiatives or committees, please contact SAVFBA Executive Officer, Wendy Shirley on 8244 6500 or visit our website.

A new volunteer consultation structure was introduced on 1 July 2006, which incorporates the Regional Management Committees and the Chief Officer's Advisory Council (formerly known as the State Volunteer Management Committee).

The CFS Future Directions Working Party, comprising representatives of the Regional Management Committees, the SAVFBA and CFS Management, instigated this change in the consultation structure.

New terms of reference for the Chief Officer's Advisory Council (COAC) and the Regional Management Committees have been adopted following consultation within regions.

The COAC will provide recommendations and advice to the Chief Officer, after consultation with the Regional Management Committees. The aim of the new structure is for the CFS Managers to deliver information to Regional Management Committees, who will then make recommendations to COAC for a final decision.

The VFBA State President chairs the council (who is non-voting), with each region having one vote.

Another successful project was the 5th Annual South East Emergency Services Night.

Rex Hall spent a significant amount of time working on this night, which grew to incorporate a weekend of SAVFBA activities.

During that weekend the SAVFBA met with our Victorian Volunteer Associations, to discuss topics that affect both states.

The speakers on the Saturday night were extremely interesting and thought provoking.

Congratulations Rex for organising a great weekend which was enjoyed by all.

Don't forget the CFS State competitions hosted by the Mundoo Group on 15 October 2006. I look forward to seeing you all there!



WELCOMES

# [FROM PUBLIC AFFAIRS]

] LISA LALIC  
] KRISTA ST JOHN  
] BRENTON RAGLESS

With the Fire Danger Season only a matter of weeks away, CFS Public Affairs is focused on developing the 2006–2007 Fire Danger Season campaign to continue to inform the public of the need to be 'bushfire ready' this coming summer.

But like many of you CFS Public Affairs is asking "did we miss something – where was winter?"

Apart from a few cold and rainy days it's all but missed us, heralding what could be a busy fire season.

Perhaps we can blame Lisa Lalic, Manager Public Affairs for bringing home the warm and dry weather from London where she recently spent four weeks on a placement with the London Fire Brigade LFB. Taking time out from her belated honeymoon in Europe, Lisa worked with the Communications Branch at (LFB), and played a part in the campaigning for legislative regulation on use of acetylene cylinders, use of sprinklers in schools and paid tribute to the victims and families affected by the July 7 bombings at a special first anniversary ceremony held at the LFB Headquarters in Albert Embankment.

Thank you to Matt Bonser, Morphett Vale CFS, Phil McDonough, Region 5 Regional Prevention Officer and Heidi Geytenbeek, CFS Strategic Services for assisting in CFS Public Affairs during Lisa's absence.

As we go to print we're part way through the Royal Adelaide Show and the CFS '15 Minutes of Flame' presentation in the main arena. On average around 50 volunteers and staff have been involved every night, stepping into the limelight to demonstrate their skills in responding to a range of emergencies including a car fire, grass fire and structure fire. Than you to all volunteers who have assisted in putting the show together. Look out for the December edition of Volunteer magazine for more on the show.

Thank you also to everyone who completed the Volunteer magazine survey, enclosed in the previous edition. Some people were so keen to have their say that they down loaded the survey from the website without even waiting for the hard copy magazine to arrive on their doorstep.

Judging by the surveys returned, most of you have read almost every edition of the magazine and enjoy the new layout and format.

The 'Statewide/Regional Round up' section is a big hit with most of those who responded. We do our best to pack as much into those pages as possible but we need some help from you in submitting photographs and a basic outline of incidents you attend. We understand that you are all very busy people but we do need your help

– even if it is just in supplying photographs and having a quick chat to get the details of the incident. So make sure you take the camera!

The 'Phamous Photos' section also rated highly and we have record number of entries in this edition.

The length and relevance of the stories within the magazine seem to be fairly well liked with only one person saying that they were too long. We try to have a mix of stories to keep everyone interested and informed.

We welcomed the suggestions on how the magazine could be improved and we will aim to implement some of the suggestions in the December edition. In this edition however, we have been able to bring you a solid update on equipment and an outline on what our Cadets, the future of the CFS, have been up to.

Please enjoy this edition of *Volunteer* magazine and look in your letterboxes in late December for the next edition.



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VOLUNTEER - WELCOMES

# [A BLAST THAT ROCKED A SMALL TOWN]

By: Matt Bonser



<<The explosion tore apart the factory.

✓ The site was littered with debris and took some time to be made safe for crews to enter.



The lunchtime quietness of the Mid North town of Gladstone was rocked by an explosion felt by residents up to 40km away on 9 May.

With black smoke rising from the site of Quin Investments, a factory that manufactures explosive materials for the mining and defence industry, volunteers from the five SA Country Fire Service brigades and a Metropolitan Fire Service brigade (MFS) rushed to the scene.

The arriving firefighters were faced with a scene of utter destruction. Flattened rubble lay where the buildings once stood, with other debris scattered over a large area.

Conscious of the dangers posed by many of the chemicals but torn by the need to rescue the members of their community that worked at the site, the CFS volunteers wisely put their own safety first and stood back and waited for additional assistance.

With two people seriously injured and three people missing and with the very real risk of additional explosions, it quickly became a multi agency incident with additional volunteers from the CFS as well as personnel from SA Police, MFS, SA Ambulance (SAAS) and volunteers from the State Emergency Service (SES) responding to the blast site.

As news of the incident quickly spread, media crews from many organisations began to arrive at the site around 10 kilometres to the north of Gladstone, as emergency services worked through the afternoon and evening identifying hazards and searching for the missing workers.

Premier Mike Rann and Opposition Leader Iain Evans left Question Time at Parliament as soon as they heard of the blast, with local MP Rob Kerin also attending the scene.

The work was slow, time consuming and exhausting with relief Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) crews travelling from Regions 1, 2 and 4 to the site on the Wednesday.

Arriving early Wednesday morning, these volunteers and additional staff established an Incident Management Team at a nearby office. With Peter Smallacombe, Bundaleer Group Officer taking the role of Incident Controller, a number of staff and volunteers worked together in planning and operations roles.

CFS Hazmat crews planned to work on the site that day, however the process was slowed when a 300 kilogram block of unexploded TNT was found in a nearby bunker.

SAPOL Explosive Coordination Section (ECS) personnel were called in to supply their remote robotic assessment equipment, which was

used in conjunction with CFS atmospheric monitoring equipment.

Additional Hazmat crews were brought in on Thursday from Region 1 and 2 and spent the day identifying and marking hazards and photographing working machinery parts for Safework SA.

Whilst CFS personnel dealt with the hazardous materials at the site, State Emergency Service crews searched large areas of nearby scrub and bush, looking for any clues that would assist the Police and Safework S.A. investigation.

All personnel involved in the delicate task of collecting victims' remains showed great care, respect and professionalism.

The site assessment was completed Friday morning, with CFS crews leaving around lunchtime.

The site was then handed over to the SAPOL and Safework SA to continue their investigation into the blast.

The tragedy of this event must be recognised and our thoughts are with the family, friends and community.

The incident provided the CFS with the opportunity to demonstrate that it is well equipped and trained to deal with large-scale Hazmat situations anywhere in the state.

The outstanding cooperation and teamwork displayed by all emergency service personnel reinforced the value in building up strong relationships other local agencies.

Debriefs and post incident reviews have highlighted some areas that may need attention, but overall the CFS can be very proud of the way our crews responded to and dealt with this tragic incident.



## NEWS & UPDATES

# FROM THE STATE ON CALL HAZMAT OFFICER

By: Narelle Rawnsley, State On Call Hazmat Officer.

One of a number of CFS staff that travelled to the blast site was State On Call Hazmat Officer, Narelle Rawnsley.

The Gladstone explosion was very challenging for all agencies. CFS took the role of lead agency until all site hazards could be identified and assessed.

As the On Call Hazmat Officer, I travelled to the blast site soon after the explosion and remained at the site until Wayne Atkins took over as the On Call Officer later in the week.

The incident had a large number of components to it, and when combined made it a very complex incident.

With three people missing presumed deceased, the scene needed to be preserved as best possible for Safework SA to undertake their investigation.

However, in order for the investigation to occur, CFS working in conjunction with other emergency services, needed to make the area safe.

The blast site was littered with hazards for all of those who worked on it, with hazards including general debris, nails and asbestos, not to mention chemicals, explosives and unstable building structures.

The site was so volatile that it was dangerous for emergency services to enter to complete their work.

We were receiving conflicting advice about the hazards contained on the site, all of this was going on at the same time as media helicopters were flying overhead and other employees and the victim's families wanted to visit the site.

While we were waiting for the all clear to enter the site, the HAZMAT crews from local and intra regional brigades undertook waterway management and testing and prevented the potential for contaminated water to leave the site by damming the creek which flowed through the blast site in four locations.

Volunteers also pH tested and sampled the water for indication of contamination.

Emergency services needed to secure the site to before CFS HAZMAT crews could enter.

CFS had undertaken training with the SAPOL ECS unit and pre-determined procedures that had been established in preparation for a similar event were easily implemented.

Calling on this training, CFS personnel utilised atmospheric monitoring equipment in conjunction with the SAPOL ECS and were able to view remote vision of the site before personnel entered.

Incident action planning by the Incident Management Team and On Call Hazmat Officer was conducted each evening and revised each morning before crews commenced work on the site.

All personnel operating at the site never lost focus of the main objective of CFS's involvement which was to assess, identify and reduce the hazards on the site and to subsequently determined the level of personal protective clothing which needed to be worn.

Once this was completed, it would allow SAPOL and Safework SA personnel to enter the site, recover the deceased and start their investigation.

Despite the horrific circumstances surrounding the incident, CFS volunteers and staff worked closely for three days with many successes, and clearly demonstrated their commitment to working closely with other agencies.

These successes included the avoidance of any CFS injuries, the provision of support from non-local hazmat crews and the involvement of the State Hazmat Unit, the use of media pictures to assist with site reconnaissance, and the daily incident action planning.



▲ Crews were able to scale down their PPE after identification and assessment of site hazards.

Additionally, CFS were able to successfully determine when scaled-down PPE could be worn, and prevent offsite water contamination.

The training and preparation the CFS had undertaken was certainly valuable during this exercise and the expertise of our personnel was noted and respected by the other agencies involved.

I would like to thank all the CFS personnel who committed time to the Gladstone incident; they are to be commended on their level of expertise and patience during an often-tedious operation.

It should be noted that the investigation into the cause of the explosion was still underway when this article was written.

## NEWS & UPDATES

### [THE CFS ON CALL HAZMAT OFFICER]

The role of a state 'On Call Hazmat Officer' is a relatively new within the CFS.

It was established to assist Regional Duty Officers and Incident Controllers by providing specialist knowledge, support and liaison and to provide technical knowledge and recommendations to the Deputy State Coordinator.

The On Call Hazmat officer also

assists in the coordination of specialist resources and personnel for Hazmat / CBR incidents in consultation with the Regional Duty Officer and/or Incident Controller, and liaise with the On Call Technical Advice Coordinator.

There are four CFS staff on call for this role: Narelle Rawnsley, Wayne Atkins, Corey Dunn and Mark Thomason.



## NEWS & UPDATES

# [SVMC CHANGES NAME]



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VOLUNTEER - NEWS & UPDATES

The State Volunteer Management Committee (SVMC) is a well-known and long established group, which provides the opportunity for volunteers to be part of the communication, consultation and decision making process of the SA Country Fire Service.

In the latter part of 2005, the committee members spent a significant amount of time discussing the future direction of the committee and its role within the organisation.

Those discussions have seen the SVMC re-establish itself as the Chief Officers Advisory Council (COAC) effective 1 July 2006.

The purpose of the COAC is to advise and make recommendations to the Chief Officer in regard to operational and volunteer matters in much the same way as the former SVMC.

The intent of the COAC is to also provide a council to which the Chief Officer can refer to for advice and recommendations on a number of

issues that affect the organization.

The re-naming of the SVMC as the COAC underpins its important role as one of the peak forums within the CFS.

With the CFS Board no longer in place (replaced by the SAFECOM Board) the COAC, representing volunteers and the Strategic Leadership Group (SLG) from a staff perspective, will work closely with the Chief Officer to establish priorities for the development and implementation of the strategic objectives for each functional area within the CFS.

These strategic objectives will feed into the CFS Annual Business Plan and will form part of the annual planning cycle, which helps drive the organization into the future.

The COAC will have 16 members, comprising of one volunteer delegate from each region, one staff delegate from each region, either the CFS Chief Officer or Deputy Chief Officer, the President of the SAVFBA, the Executive Officer of the SAVFBA and a delegate from the

State Occupational Health and Safety Committee.

Each regional management committee will shortly be asked to elect one volunteer delegate to represent them on the COAC, with the first meeting scheduled for Monday 16 October.

The Chair of the COAC is the President of the SAVFBA, with either the Chief Officer or Deputy Chief Officer taking the position of Executive Officer.

As part of good practice in a developing organisation there will be a post implementation review of the COAC in 12 months, which will allow for any changes in the membership of the COAC as deemed necessary.

### The mission of the COAC

To protect life, property and the environment from fire and other emergencies, whilst protecting and supporting our personnel and continuously improving.

Our operations will maximize firefighter health and safety; the protection of life, property and the

environment and they will be effective, efficient and carried out in a seamless manner and in the pursuit of excellence.

### What are the reporting relationships for the committee?

The COAC reports to the Chief Officer and the Regional Volunteer Management Committees.

### How often will the COAC meet?

The COAC will meet every two months, with this frequency to be reviewed after the initial 12 months.

### How are regional volunteer representatives elected?

Regional Volunteer Management Committees have been asked to elect a representative to attend the inaugural meeting on Monday 16 October.

From there, representatives will be elected every two years, with Regions 1,3 and 5 electing representatives in odd years and Regions 2, 4 and 6 in even years.

## NEWS & UPDATES

# [INCIDENT MANAGEMENT]

By: Leanne Adams

Recruiting for Incident Management teams...would you like to be involved?

Running an incident involves far more than firefighting alone – a wide range of skills are required.

Running an incident takes all types of people with all types of skills, including: administration; catering; managing; planning; making predictions about incidents; keeping track of people and vehicles; finances, media liaison, keeping vehicles on the road; managing staging areas; supporting operations by assisting in command vehicles with logistics, radio, phones and logging; plus all the operational roles and many more.

### DO YOU HAVE SKILLS AND WOULD LIKE TO BECOME INVOLVED?

If you are yet to gain any real experience, a good way to get started is by becoming involved in incident management at your local group and by participating in an Australasian Interagency Incident Management Systems (AIIMS) course.

If you have some experience and have previously completed an AIIMS course, contact the Regional Operations Planning Officer at your Regional Office.

Prior to the next fire season, pools of personnel in each region and the state will be established and equipped to be deployed to incidents as they occur.

This is an extension and enhancement of the Level 3 teams that were established last year with a view to including more people at the local level and get incident management people in place as early as possible.

### CATERING AT INCIDENTS

CFS recognises that one of the most important things we can do at an incident is to feed people the right food at the right time.

To assist on improving catering across the board at all levels of incidents, a document focusing on 'catering at incidents' has been developed, with references to the Emergency Management Australian

Catering Handbook and the Australian Food Safety Standards.

Plans are underway to provide in each region training for Group Catering Officers and other Catering personnel, covering topics such as:

- Responsibilities for catering
- Catering resources
- Hygiene
- Snack packs, strike team packs etc.

If you are interested in being involved in these sessions please advise your Group Officer. Information will be provided to Groups in coming weeks.





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## NEWS & UPDATES

# VOLUNTEERS SHARE THEIR THOUGHTS AT SUMMIT



Volunteers participated in both presentations and workshops

**A**round 120 SA Country Fire Service (CFS) volunteers attended the inaugural Volunteer Summit on the first weekend in July at the Fort Largs Police Academy.

Volunteers from across the state were invited to attend the summit to identify, discuss and propose opportunities for improving the way that CFS plans and undertakes its business over the next few years.

Attendees participated in presentations by a number of experts in emergency management and volunteering. The highlight of the weekend was a presentation by Dr Judy Esmond, a leading expert on gaining, sustaining and retaining volunteers.

Dr Esmond's presentation entitled *'From barely surviving to thriving'* generated not only a number of laughs but plunged many in the audience into deep thought about how the points she highlighted could be used in everyday CFS activities.

Following the presentations, the group divided up into a number of smaller workshop groups, and spent a large part of each afternoon discussing the topics of volunteer recruitment and retention,

leadership, technology and equipment, organisational systems and community engagement.

The workshops were designed to develop practical ideas that can be used by the CFS for future development.

Andrew Lawson, CFS Deputy Chief Officer, said the summit gave the organisation the opportunity to discuss issues pertinent to its ongoing evolution with the people who are in the front line, our volunteers.

"As a community-based organisation we rely heavily on the dedication and continuing commitment of our volunteers and we were keen to hear what they had to say on a range of topics," Andrew said.

The Summit participants enjoyed dinner together on the Saturday evening, with guest speaker Peter Hughes sharing his personal experience of the 2002 Bali bombings.

In a moving presentation, Peter took the group step by step through his experience as a blast victim, which brought a tear to the eye of more than one attendee.

At the summit closing ceremony, Euan Ferguson, CFS Chief Officer was presented with the summit

recommendations and committed to further discussion, development and consultation on these recommendations with CFS volunteers.

Many of the recommendations that have been put forward are consistent with those identified in Project Phoenix, and the Independent Inquiry

into the Eyre Peninsula Bushfires.

The volunteers who attended the summit should by now have received a full copy of the recommendations and a response to each recommendation. This information will also be provided to all groups and brigades.

### A NUMBER OF CENTRAL THEMES EMERGED FROM THE WORKSHOPS OVER THE TWO DAYS, INCLUDING:

- The need to promote to the community that CFS volunteers are true volunteers, and are not paid, but choose to support and protect the communities they live in through being a member of the CFS.
- The need for increased and widespread succession planning and transfer of knowledge to younger people through different forums.
- The need for more exploration in how the organisation can recruit more volunteers, and a review of training and induction processes.
- The need for increased volunteer and employer recognition.
- The need for enhanced mutual aid between CFS brigades and private farm firefighting units.
- Greater inclusion of CFS volunteers in decision making processes in areas such as policy development.
- The potential for increased research, development and standardisation of tools and equipment.
- The potential for discussion on the selection process for volunteer leadership positions, with consideration to ranks being awarded based on a merit process rather than through an election process.
- The potential for the introduction of distance education for some elements of training courses to ease pressure on rural volunteers having to spend time away from home.

## NEWS & UPDATES

# [THOUGHTS ON THE SUMMIT]

**I**would like to congratulate you on the CFS Summit. I had a wonderful time and got to meet other members that I would not normally get to see.

It was also an opportunity to have a say in any future directions of the service. I know that some members had the 'here we go again' mentality but at least we were being asked to assist in changes needed to make the service more efficient. If they are taken up then we can say we had an input to the process. The dinner and the guest speaker were superb.

**Geoff Capper, CFS Region One Operations Brigade**

**I**thought the summit was excellent. It was good to have a range of CFS members there in various positions and from all the Regions.

There were some excellent speakers. In particular, Judy Esmond, who covered issues like recruitment, retention of members and better interaction with our communities.

The approach was more looking to the future and how to do it better. Each of the workshops came out with about 10 recommendations and Euan (Ferguson) has agreed to get these out to the participants in the next five weeks with some idea of timing and follow up on each of the recommendations.

A DVD entitled 'Volunteers with Vision' was launched at the Summit which

profiled four CFS volunteers from Ceduna, Mount Pleasant, Naracoorte and Eden Hills - its only about 10-15 minutes but it's excellent.

I think there will be other 'summits' in the future but the next one may involve the younger members of the CFS. It was certainly good to have a number of younger members at this one.

The Saturday night dinner speaker was Peter Hughes from Perth who was a victim of the Bali bombings and was fortunate to survive. He made a very emotional presentation that spoke about the commitment and support of Aussies and his experiences in Bali and while on life support.

There were also attendances from the Minister Carmel Zollo and a wrap

up from Jennifer Rankine (Minister for Volunteers) who is also a member of Salisbury CFS. All in all it was a pretty good effort."

**Rod Cunningham, Mintaro CFS Brigade**

### WIN A COPY OF 'BACK FROM THE DEAD'

We have 2 copies to give away, to enter SMS your full name, brigade and phone number to 0421 260 942.

Your SMS must be received by 25 October. One entry per person. Only CFS volunteers are eligible.



## NEWS & UPDATES

### [CENTRE FOR LESSONS LEARNED]

By: Leanne Adams

Lessons are not learnt until something is done

(Project Phoenix Lessons Learned Activity)

**F**eel like you're going to debriefs but nothing ever happens to fix things?

From time to time items raised at debriefs are not fixed as they are not followed up on and actioned; however chances are they have been and you're just not hearing about it!

The Centre for Lessons Learned is a group of people, including CFS volunteers and staff, and other agencies, who aim to improve the way we do things.

Their goal is managing incidents safely, effectively and efficiently.

The group seeks to achieve this goal through reviewing lessons learned from debriefs, investigations, end of season reviews, other agency system reviews, Coronial Inquiries, literature, as well as incorporating

suggestions from CFS volunteers and from the community.

The Centre for Lessons Learned steering committee has been specifically reviewing the occupational health and safety and welfare of personnel, the impacts on volunteers and volunteerism, incident management, competencies, communications and information flow, equipment, aircraft, technology, prevention, fire management planning and protection of the environment.

One of the large tasks for the steering committee is the development of a database to collect items coming from debriefs, monitor their progress and report on their progress to relevant people.

Keep reading *Volunteer* magazine for updates on the progress for the Centre for Lessons Learned.

## NEWS & UPDATES

### [2006 CFS FIREFIGHTING COMPETITIONS]

By: Heidi Geytenbeek, CFS Strategic Services

**A**s reported in the last issue, this years CFS Firefighting Competitions will be held on 15 October at Goolwa.

Goolwa is located at the mouth of the Murray on Lake Alexandrina, approximately 80km south of Adelaide and within 20km of Victor Harbor.

The town offers many family friendly tourist activities, as well as a wide range of accommodation, from bed & breakfasts to motels.

Nomination forms and accommodation information will be forwarded to all brigades, with nomination forms also available from the CFS website.

Last year's competitions drew 20 brigades and we are hoping to see more brigades attend this year.

Brigades that have never competed or have not competed for a few years, are invited to come along in 2006 and join in the fun.

To those brigades that we see each year, we are looking forward to seeing you all again this year.

For more information or a copy of the nomination form please contact Heidi Geytenbeek on 8463 4266 or [geytenbeek.heidi@cfs.org.au](mailto:geytenbeek.heidi@cfs.org.au)

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## NEWS & UPDATES

# THE AFAC POSITION ON SMOKE ALARMS

By: Phil McDonough



<< All homes must be fitted with a smoke alarm

Significant research has been undertaken into the performance of smoke alarms since their introduction more than 10 years ago.

As a result of this research the Australasian Fire Authorities Council (AFAC) have released a position paper on smoke alarms in residential accommodation. This paper is supported by the CFS.

The position paper recommends that, *"all residential accommodation be fitted with photo-electric smoke alarms."*

Two principle types of smoke alarms are available, being ionisation and photo-electric.

AFAC's support of the use of photo-electric smoke detectors comes from

analysing research on the proven performance of both the ionisation and photo-electric smoke detectors.

The research has shown that the photo-electric type smoke alarms are generally more effective than the ionisation type.

Ionisation smoke alarms predominantly detect the presence of extremely small particles of smoke, whereas photo-electric smoke alarms predominantly detect visible smoke.

The research shows that ionisation type smoke alarms detect flaming fires marginally earlier than photo-electric; however they may not operate in time to alert occupants early enough to escape from smouldering fires.

Photo-electric smoke alarms detect smouldering fires and fires starting in areas remote from smoke alarms significantly earlier than ionisation type. Many fires in residential accommodation begin as smouldering fires and these smoke detectors provide a more effective all-round detection and alarm than ionisation alarms.

For both flaming and smouldering fires, photo-electric smoke alarms are likely to alert occupants in time to escape safely.

The position paper and further information is available from the AFAC website under 'publications and products'.

Smoke alarms are compulsory in all South Australian residential homes built since 1 February 1995.

Any home purchased on or after that date must also be fitted with a 240v mains powered or a 10-year non-replaceable, non-removable permanently connected battery.

Any other home had until 1 February 1998 to fit a battery-operated smoke alarm, powered by a 9V battery, as a minimum.

## NEWS & UPDATES

# [NEW THEORY OF WEATHER AFFECTING FIRES]

A phenomenon known as 'Dry Slots' has been identified by the Bushfire Cooperative Research Centre and the Bureau of Meteorology Research Centre.

A 'dry slot' is a patch of high altitude, super dry air which on very hot days is drawn down to the lower levels after convective air currents rise to around five kilometre and mix with this dry air.

At higher altitudes, the hot air mixes with cooler air, which, being denser, then falls towards earth.

Researchers have discovered that

this super-dry air reduces relative humidity from about 20 percent to about three percent at ground level. This effect is so intense that twigs up to six millimetres thick have been found to become drier within one hour.

The effects on fire behaviour come in when the super dry air is able to reach the ground, reducing the humidity in fine fuels to extremely low levels.

If this phenomenon occurs in the vicinity of a large fire, and quickly dries available fuel, the potential is

there for the fire to spread quickly and uncontrollably.

Depending on the width of the slot that develops, these conditions could continue for up to two to three hours.

A 'dry slot' appears on the satellite image as a hole in a layer of water vapour between four and six kilometres above the land surface.

Researchers studied six years worth of half hourly weather data from more than 20 weather stations and discovered this phenomenon.

This weather phenomenon has

been linked to the erratic and unusual fire behaviour, as was seen during the Canberra Bushfires in 2003 and the Eyre Peninsula Bushfire in 2005.

A forecasting tool has been developed by the Bushfire CRC to assist firefighting authorities, by providing several hours warning about the possibility of a 'dry slot' situation occurring.

Information courtesy of The Australian and Bushfire CRC



## NEWS & UPDATES

# [SA PARTICIPATES IN FIRE BEHAVIOUR EXPERIMENTS]

The unpredictable nature of fire in the Ngarkat Conservation Park is now the subject of a Bushfire CRC research program looking into fire behaviour and prescribed burning.

Project FuSE (Fire Experiments in Scrub environments with attention to wind 'u') is conducting research into fire behaviour, with a particular focus on heath and mallee vegetation.

One of the project aims is to develop a prescribed burning guide for mallee and heath fuel types in South Australia based on the data gathered on fire behaviour, fuel and weather factors.

The investigation has involved researchers undertaking more than 20 prescribed burns in the park during May 2006, with further burns scheduled in March/ April 2007, and late spring 2007/ early 2008.

Researchers from Ensis, the joint research venture between CSIRO and SCION (New Zealand Forest Research Institute Limited) are working closely with researchers and fire managers from the Department for Environment and Heritage to conduct this project.

Local CFS groups have embraced this project.



Researchers gathered data after the burns took place.



Closely observing the fire behaviour.



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VOLUNTEER - NEWS & UPDATES

## CFS UTILITY BAGS *All bags made to suit your needs*



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- ◆ **Note Pad & Radio Holder:**
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**\$50<sup>00</sup>**

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# YOU'VE BEEN INJURED – WHAT ARE YOUR RIGHTS?

By: Judy Arthur, Manager HSW



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VOLUNTEER - NEWS & UPDATES

A recent audit by WorkCover has revealed that many volunteers do not know what happens if they are injured during CFS approved activities.

The Health Safety and Welfare (HS&W) branch of the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission (SAFECOM), manages all workers compensation claims and rehabilitation on behalf of the CFS, MFS and SES. As part of their duties, the HS&W Branch also looks after welfare for all agencies apart from the MFS.

We recognise that being injured can be a profound experience. Rest assured that everything will be done, so far as reasonable, to assist your recovery.

To ensure we can best help you on your way to recovery, we need to know about the injury.

It is important that the SAFECOM HSW Branch is notified of an injury within 24 hours of it occurring, or as soon as possible.

Our expectation is that the Brigade Captain will notify their Region/Regional Duty Officer of the injury, and where workers compensation is required, the necessary paperwork will be completed as soon as possible, hopefully within days.

The paperwork is an accident/near miss form, the Workcover Workers Report Form and a Prescribed Medical Certificate from a medical practitioner (not a sickness certificate). Workcover information packages are available from Regions and the SAFECOM HSW Branch.

Once the forms are completed, they are to be sent to the region, which will then forward them onto the SAFECOM HSW branch.

Remember, the sooner we get the information, the sooner we can help.

Each injury is assessed and where rehabilitation is required, the Rehabilitation Consultant will make contact with the injured volunteer to assist them in returning to work as soon as practicable.

If an injury occurs out of business hours, assistance is available through the Regional Duty Officer or the HSW On Call Officer.

The on call person can be contacted through the State Operations Call Centre at any time.

## CFS volunteers under the WRC Act and Regulations.

CFS volunteers are included in the prescribed class of volunteers pursuant to the Workers Rehabilitation Compensation (WRC) Act.

## Definition of a volunteer

In the WRC Act a CFS volunteer is defined as:

- A member of the CFS
- A fire control officer under the SAFECOM Act
- Or a person who at the request of or with the approval of the CFS person in command at the scene or fire, assists in the fire fighting or emergency

There are conditions attached to the latter definition and each case is assessed by its merit. This situation places significant responsibility on the 'commanding officer' of the incident to ensure the safety of such persons, in the activity, in their PPE and systems of work as they have responsibility in the provision of a duty of care to them.

## Approved Activities

Under the WRC Regulations CFS approved activities are described as:

- Activities directed towards preventing or fighting fires
- Dealing with CFS emergencies
- Attending in response to calls
- Attending CFS meetings, competitions, training or other organised activities
- Carrying out functions under the SAFECOM Act.

Please note unusual activities such as fundraising, proposed team building exercises and other events need prior approval by the Region.

CFS volunteer workers compensation injury entitlements Under the WRC Act, if a CFS volunteer is injured during an approved CFS activity they are supported with the payment of salary for time lost from paid work, and/or incurred reasonable medical expenses.

The Act also provides for compensation to self-employed or unemployed members who are in receipt of unemployment benefits.

## Salary

Income maintenance will be paid for salary lost in the case of employed persons.

Average weekly earnings (income maintenance) need to be determined for all lost time injuries and cannot exceed the amount set as twice the state average (\$1,963 in 2006).

The average weekly earnings figure may include a pattern of regular and established overtime and other allowances payable under the Act. The claims administrator will assess this.

During the period of incapacity for an injury, the primary employer is requested to maintain salary payments and SAFECOM will reimburse the employer to ensure all usual deductions are maintained.

If this is not possible, SAFECOM will request salary details from the employer/volunteer and pay the volunteer under the SAFECOM payroll.

In the case of self-employed registered volunteers, the claims administrator may ask for copies of group certificates or other relevant information. Where necessary they will refer to similar employment and determine the income in consultation with the volunteer, or against an appropriate award.

## Medical Expenses

CFS volunteers may be refunded, in respect of any work-related injury, any fees paid for medical and hospital attention, to a duly qualified and registered medical practitioner, physician, physiotherapist, surgeon or nurse or to any hospital. Travel expenses associated with receiving these services may also be payable

Provision is also made for the reimbursement to a member for the reasonable cost of ambulance services and of repairing or replacing personal property damaged in the same injury,

## Journey Accidents

CFS volunteers are treated for Workers Compensation purposes as if they were 'workers' under the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act.

Workers are covered for any injury whilst travelling from/to their respective homes in response to operational callouts.

Claims should be submitted in every case, and each will be considered on merit.

The CFS has agreed to cover bona fide journey accidents which are incurred during approved CFS activities where the journey is unbroken and a direct route home. Under the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation (WRC) Act these are no longer covered.

## Lump Sum Payments

CFS volunteers are entitled to claim for Section 43 payments, which are non-economic losses sustained as a result of their injury.

These payments are calculated according to the WRC Act requirements.

Each body part received a set percentage of the prescribed sum (\$131,000 in 2006).

From time to time, claims are redeemed under Section 42 of the WRC Act.



## Death Claims

In the event of a death of a CFS volunteer the following applies;

A funeral benefit will be paid, equal to either the actual funeral cost or the prescribed amount (\$6,705 in 2006) which ever is the lesser.

A spouse is entitled to a lump sum 1.675 times the prescribed lump sum amount (\$219,425 in 2006) less any Section 43 payment based on current year.

Where the spouse is totally dependent, 50 percent of the weekly payments are made or where partial dependency exists, payments will be made according to the level of dependency.

An orphan child (if an only child) would receive a lump sum of 50 percent of the difference between the prescribed sum x 1.675 and any Section 43 lump sum payment. If totally dependent, he/she would also receive weekly payments of 25 percent of the worker's weekly wages. This figure would reduce accordingly with a lesser dependency.

In the case of more than one orphan child, the 50 percent lump sum would be divided equally between the children, however each child would be entitled to weekly payments of up to 25 percent of the worker's weekly wages depending on level of dependency.

A dependant (not orphaned) child would be entitled to weekly payments of up to 12.5 percent of the worker's weekly wages, dependent on level of dependency.

Dependent relatives (not spouse or child) may be entitled to such compensation by lump sum or weekly payments if the relative is dependent of the deceased worker, depending on the earning capacity or means of the relative and the extent of other benefits provided in relation to the worker's death.



The CFS wants everyone to  
'come home safe'  
Photo: Salisbury CFS

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Retired Volunteers

If a CFS volunteer is retired and not in receipt of any salary, wages or unemployment benefits, only the medical expenses are paid. Retirement age is generally at 65 years.

### Accidental Death of Single volunteers

If this were to occur during a CFS response to a callout, and the member has dependants, then the usual claim would arise. If, however, there were no dependants the funeral expenses would be paid.

### Accidental Death of a volunteer in a De Facto Relationship

In the circumstance of a 'de facto' relationship then a court ruling would be sought e.g. five years co-habitation may allow a dependent status. Children of the de facto relationship would immediately be dependants.

### Cadet Members

A cadet member (a member between 13 and 18 years of age) is

not entitled to workers compensation payments unless he/she is receiving wages, salary or unemployment benefits. All medical and associated expenses will be met.

### Remember;

Injuries need to be reported within 24 hours. Claim forms are available from Regions and the HSW Branch and completed forms are to be sent to the Region initially before being sent by the Region to the HSW Branch.

If medical treatment is sought, advise the treating doctor that injury occurred due to CFS activities and you need to request a 'Prescribed Medical Certificate'. This must be sent with the claim form.

If the injury has resulted in time lost from your employment, a certificate must be provided. Please also provide a payslip and details of your employer on the claim form and a contact number if known.

If there is difficulty providing all the required information, it is better to submit the claim early and allow the claims manager to sort out the rest. Avoiding delays is best for all.

### Need more information?

Contact the SAFECOM HSW Branch:

Alison Chesser  
(Workers Comp) 8463 4143

Angela Henderson  
(Workers Comp) 8463 4145

Trudy Whelan  
(SPAM & Rehab) 8463 4141

Judy Arthur  
(Manager HSW & 8463 4140

Lindsay Hincks (Regions 2,4,6,HQ)  
(OHS Officer) 8463 4151  
0418840792

Mike Guilfoyle (Regions 1,3,5,STC)  
(OHS Officer) 8463 4150  
0409009882

## NEWS & UPDATES

### [SAVFBA RECOMMENDS 'TOP UP' COVER]

In addition the support provided by the SA Country Fire Service under the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act and Regulations, the SA Volunteer Fire Brigades Association (SAVFBA) recommends that CFS groups cover

their volunteers for additional 'top up' insurance.

This insurance provides a further level of cover for death, permanent or partial disability for CFS volunteers.

Most groups have this cover, which in case of a death pays out a lump

sum of \$100,000, plus a funeral benefit and extra payments for dependant children.

This fund has paid out this maximum benefit to two CFS members in the last 12 months.

The annual subscription for this

insurance is due soon and forms will be sent out through your Regional Business Services Officer soon.

For more information about this insurance, contact Wendy Shirley at the SAVFBA office on 08 8244 6500.

By: Wendy Shirley, Executive Officer SAVFBA



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VOLUNTEER - NEWS & UPDATES

# NEW WORKPLACE LAWS RAISE QUESTIONS FOR CFS VOLUNTEERS

By: Mick Ayre, CFS Manager Strategic Services

The recent changes to the Workplace Relations Act made by the Federal Government and promoted as 'WorkChoices' have stimulated much discussion across the country.

There has been significant debate at political level about exactly what impact this new legislation will have on workers, and industrial advocates have been quick to point out possible effects on workers employed under various industrial agreements and contracts of work.

Recently, many CFS volunteers who are not self-employed have been considering their position in regards to the potential for termination from their paid employment, by an employer on the grounds of repeated absences from work in attending emergency incidents, under the recent legislative changes. As a result, several questions have been raised at Group and Regional meetings on this topic.

In endeavouring to provide a definitive statement to CFS volunteers, the SafeWork SA division of the South Australian Department

of Administrative and Information Services (DAIS) was contacted, as well as the Federal Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR).

The following is a summary of the situation regarding the protections for CFS volunteers against unfair termination:

*Where the employee is employed under Proprietary Limited Companies (Pty Ltd) or Incorporated Bodies (Inc), the provisions of the Workplace Relations Act 1996 (as amended 2006) apply and the following protection applies:*

*Part 12, "Minimum entitlements of employees", Division 4, "Termination of employment", Section 659, Clause (2) states:*

*(2) Except as provided by subsection (3) or (4), an employer must not terminate an employee's employment for any one or more of the following reasons, or for reasons including any one or more of the following reasons:*

*Part (i) temporary absence from work because of the carrying out of*

*a voluntary emergency management activity, where the absence is reasonable having regards to all the circumstances."*

*and at clause(6):*

*(6) For the purposes of this section, an employee carries out a voluntary emergency management activity if, and only if:*

*(a) the employee carries out an activity that involves dealing with an emergency or natural disaster; and*

*(b) the employee carries out the activity on a voluntary basis; and*

*(c) the employee is a member of, or has a member-like association with, a recognised emergency management body; and*

*(d) either:*

*i. the employee was requested by or on behalf of the body to carry out the activity; or*

*ii. no such request was made, but it would be reasonable to expect that, if the circumstances had permitted the making of such request, it is likely that such a request would have been made".*

Under the definitions in this Act, the CFS is a recognised emergency management body and a volunteer is prescribed to cover all CFS volunteers and officers.

Where an employee is employed by a sole trader or partnership, current State Industrial legislation in almost identical wording prohibits the termination of an employee on the grounds of absence from work in cases where that employee's absence is for the purpose of attending an emergency incident as a member of a volunteer emergency service.

This detail should give comfort to CFS volunteers that they have protection against termination of employment on the grounds of absence from paid employment when attending emergency incidents. It is however, advisable that CFS volunteers continue to negotiate and maintain the support and approval of their employer to be temporarily released from paid employment when required to attend incidents with their brigade.

## NEWS & UPDATES

# [CFS INJURIES FROM RURAL FIREFIGHTING OPERATIONS]

By: Malim Watts, Manager Operations Services

The SA Country Fire Service (CFS) has recently undertaken analysis of the types of injuries that volunteers have sustained since December 2005.

The analysis reveals that there is a repetitive occurrence of injury types across a number of rural incidents. Specifically, these include heat stress and fatigue-related incidents, minor burns, breathing difficulties associated with asthma and smoke inhalation, bites and stings, and cuts and bruising.

Historically, fire-fighting operations

are regarded as an inherently hazardous occupation carrying varying degrees of risk.

The CFS is committed to a 'Safety first culture' and considers that with appropriate training, supervision and dynamic risk assessment controls in place, all operational activities can be undertaken in a safe manner.

The injury types outlined above can be significantly reduced through:

- Ensuring you are physically and psychologically fit for duty.
- Managing pre-existing medical conditions by ensuring that you

have appropriate medications with you when you attend callouts and long duration deployments.

- Being aware of individual and team capabilities and performance. If someone is injured that will impact the team.
- Wearing issued personal protective clothing in the correct manner.
- Having an appreciation and awareness of your potential operating environment.
- Practicing heat stress and fatigue management practices that include adequate crew rotation, rest, meals and rehydration.

- By simply looking after yourself and your mates.

It is critical that all CFS staff and volunteers ensure that the principles of 'Safety first – come home safe' are at the forefront in all operational decision making processes, are reflected in Incident Action Plans and entrenched in the practical execution of strategies and tactics on the fire ground. Operational Bulletin number 8/2006



# CFS DOMINATES AT STATE RCR CHALLENGE



**V**olunteers from the SA Country Fire Service blitzed the field during the State Road Crash Rescue challenge, held on the weekend of 8 and 9 April.

In what was almost a clean sweep, CFS was placed first in the 'unlimited' class and the 'limited' category with Craig Oates, Blackwood CFS being awarded Best Team Leader and Justin Ranford, Stirling CFS named Best Medic.

With competition fierce between the eight teams representing the CFS, Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS), State Emergency Service (SES) and a visiting team from Werribee in Victoria, a crowd of around 500 people over the duration of the weekend witnessed some first class displays.

Salisbury MFS was awarded first place in the rapid extrication class, which assumes the casualty has life-threatening injuries and the rescue must be completed in less than 10 minutes.

Well done to the following CFS volunteers: Craig Oates, Colin Willoughby, Dean Howell, Brett Brodie, Lucas Wilson, Matt Edwards from Blackwood CFS and Neil Maslin,



Justin Ranford, Marty Biro, Marcus Delaney, Jim Keatch, Hank van Kaathoven and Des Bailes (manager) from Stirling CFS.

The teams from both Blackwood and Stirling CFS qualified to compete in the Australasian Road Rescue Skills Challenge, held at the Wayville

Showgrounds on 20 – 23 July.

Competition between the 23 teams from across Australia and New Zealand was intense, with participants competing in more than 65 road crash scenarios over a period of three days.

Both Blackwood and Stirling put in

spectacular efforts and should be proud of their 8th and 20th respective places.

Burwood representing the New South Wales Fire Brigade won the 2006 Australasian Road Rescue Skills Challenge, taking out first place in five of the six categories.





## NEWS & UPDATES

# LAUNCH OF THE WORKING IN HARMONY PROGRAMME

By: Adaire Palmer, Volunteer Management Branch

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VOLUNTEER - NEWS & UPDATES

Saturday 14 May 2006 marked the culmination of more than two years spent developing the innovative Working In Harmony Program for Country Fire Service (CFS) and State Emergency Service (SES) volunteers.

The program was officially launched by the Hon. Carmel Zollo, Minister for Emergency Services and supported by the Chief Officers of both the CFS and SES, Euan Ferguson and David Place and Deputy Chief Officer CFS, Andrew Lawson.

More than 50 guests attended the launch, including special guests in the Volunteer Harassment Contact Officers.

The Minister for Emergency Services warmly greeted the Volunteer Harassment Contact Officers as she presented them with their certificates for the training they had participated in

during the past two years. Their efforts were later celebrated with the cutting of a cake.

CFS Media Liaison Officer, Brenton Ragless kept the guests entertained as Master of Ceremonies and did a fabulous job of managing the speakers at the event.

The Working In Harmony Program has three elements: the trained Volunteer Harassment Contact Officers; Workplace Dignity Training; and support material such as posters and brochures.

Volunteer Harassment Contact Officers are specially selected and trained to support volunteers who may be experiencing harassment and bullying in the emergency services.

Volunteer Harassment Contact Officers are also ambassadors for championing the Working In Harmony Program.

A confidential referral service for volunteers wishing to access a Volunteer Harassment Contact Officer exists through the Volunteer Management Branch. For a confidential referral, phone 1300 364 587 or your local Volunteer Support Officer.

Workplace Dignity Training is a two-hour session, which provides volunteers with information about their rights and responsibilities under the emergency services policies and legislation that deals with harassment, bullying, equal opportunity and discrimination.

It also outlines the procedure and options available in the event of a volunteer experiencing harassment, bullying or discrimination.

To schedule a session into your brigade's training program, contact your Volunteer Support Officer.

A series of posters and brochures have been produced which outline

the role of the Volunteer Harassment Contact Officer and how to contact them. These are usually distributed at a Workplace Dignity Training session.

The launch of the Working In Harmony Program demonstrates the support of the Government, the Country Fire Service and its volunteers to the continued building of a culture of respect, inclusively and the maintenance of safe work practices.



## NEW SAVFBA WEBSITE ONLINE NOW!

The VFBA website is currently being upgraded to provide a better service to CFS volunteers. Log in today at [www.savfba.org.au](http://www.savfba.org.au)

Log in by typing in your name (as registered with the CFS), and your CFS identity number as your password.

If you have forgotten your CFS ID number, there is a facility to obtain that number through the website or contact your Regional Headquarters.



## NEWS & UPDATES

# SURVEY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY FIRE SERVICE WOMEN VOLUNTEERS

By: Adaire Palmer, Volunteer Management Branch

In late 2005 the SA Country Fire Service (CFS) in partnership with the Bushfire Co-operative Research Centre, and the South Australian Fire and Emergency Commission (SAFECOM) Volunteer Management Branch, surveyed women CFS volunteers.

The aim of the survey was to gather information on the experiences of women volunteers to assist in the development of long and short-term strategies to assist the CFS in recruiting and retaining women volunteers.

Women make up about half the population (Australian Bureau of Statistics), yet the proportion of women in the CFS compared to that of the general population is about 20 per cent.

Women are thus underrepresented among the ranks of CFS volunteers.

The survey received strong support with a response rate well above the normal rate of response for surveys. Responses came from 38 per cent of women in operational roles and 17 per cent from women in operational support (or auxiliary) roles.

Highlights from the survey report include a favourable response to their experiences in training, with about 80 per cent of operational role women volunteers reporting that they were satisfied with their opportunities available for learning new skills and for personal growth and development.

The issues needing attention have fallen into two distinct categories – material and organisational.

Significant numbers of women reported difficulties of various kinds with the fit of protective clothing, with accessing equipment stored high on appliances or in handling equipment.

About one quarter reported that a lack of facilities and privacy at fire stations was a difficulty.

These material difficulties can be overcome, in time and with the appropriate resources. The researchers have proposed some solutions including a review and improvement in the provision of personal protective equipment and clothing for women.

A review of the facilities provided at fire stations was also suggested by the researchers, with a view to ensuring appropriate facilities are included in future planning and when developing upgrades for stations.

Close examination of how equipment is currently stored and retrieved from appliances was also suggested, with the researchers providing information about another Bushfire CRC research team that is reviewing issues of physical fitness and strength requirements for male and female firefighters in relation to equipment use.

Recommendations from this research project team will prove useful in assisting the CFS in resolving issues such as stowage and retrieval of equipment.

The researchers found the organisational aspects of making recommendations to improve recruitment and retention of women more difficult than the material aspects of the results of the survey.

They did, however, point out that, given the results, an aggressive campaign aimed at anti-discrimination would most likely prove unproductive and not produce lasting change in the workplace culture.

As there was a relatively low incidence of harassment reported generally, the researchers recommended the continued implementation of the Working In Harmony Program as a means of education and awareness about a range of issues, including discrimination.

The research also found that while women were overall reasonably happy with their experiences in the CFS, there were some who believed their male counterparts tended to be somewhat overprotective.

Others reported initial barriers to volunteering included concerns about the physical demands of firefighting, child and family responsibilities and time constraints associated with paid work.

Certainly the last two mentioned barriers reflect issues in the broader volunteering sector, with trends in

volunteering showing that volunteers are choosing to volunteer in many different ways than they have in past years. (Graff, L, 2002. Emerging Trends and issues in Volunteerism and Volunteer Program Management, in e-volunteerism.com).

The CFS has made a commitment to progressing the recommendations from the report through its strategic and annual planning processes and continuing to support the implementation of programs such as the Working In Harmony program.

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# [FIRE PREVENTION OFFICERS WORKSHOP]

**By: Terry Hassam, CFS Project Officer, Prevention Services**

The Country Fire Service works closely with local councils across South Australia in developing bushfire preparation and prevention measures to achieve our vision of a 'Safer Community'. A key person within these councils is the Fire Prevention Officer (FPO).

One of their primary responsibilities is to manage the Council's District Bushfire Prevention Committee. This

committee, among other tasks, develops a District Bushfire Prevention Plan, which includes a bushfire risk analysis and outline of work required to mitigate that risk.

Each council has an obligation as outlined under Section 77 of the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Act (2005), which says *'each rural Council must appoint a suitably qualified Fire Prevention Officer for its area'*.

To assist with this, the CFS conducted a course for new FPOs from 22 August to 1 September 2006.

The course covered a number of areas, including how to conduct fuel load assessments, how to implement appropriate fuel management techniques, how and when a 'Section 83' should be issued, how to appropriately educate the community on fire prevention issues and also gives participants guidance on how to prepare Bushfire Prevention Plans.

In an effort to ensure existing FPO's are up to date with changes to

relevant legislation and policies, the CFS is conducting a Skills and Knowledge Update Workshop in late September.

CFS volunteers are often asked to represent their brigades as a 'Prevention Rep' on District Bushfire Prevention Committees.

This involvement allows volunteers to provide a valuable contribution to the safety of their local community and have input with local knowledge of hazards, risks and community assets.

If you get the chance – grab it wholeheartedly.

## NEWS & UPDATES [NEW FIRE-FOCUSED TEACHING PACKAGE FOR SCHOOLS]

**By: John Gawen, Prevention and Community Awareness Officer**

A new teacher's package focusing on reducing the number of arson-related incidents has been developed by the Firewatch Strategic Alliance.

The Firewatch Strategic Alliance committee was formed several years ago and brings together representatives from SA Police (SAPOL), SA Country Fire Service (CFS), Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS), Department For Environment and Heritage (DEH), Forestry SA, State Emergency Service (SES), SA Farmers Federation (SAFF) and Local Government Association (LGA).

Although arson has a major impact on CFS, it is a criminal act and as such SAPOL has taken the lead role in the development of these packs.

The package is made up of a lesson book, brochures, games, music CDs and general information.

The main lesson book has predetermined lessons aimed at individual ages and topics.

The main aims of the package are to:

- Reduce the number of arson – related bushfires in South Australia.
- Apprehend people involved in arson – related bushfires.
- Raise awareness in young people of the dangers of deliberately lit bushfires.
- Reduce the number of accidental fires.
- Reduce the number of injuries and deaths caused by fire.

A letter was sent to every school asking if they were interested in delivering some of the lessons, which



^ The complete package.

can also include the delivery of a number of sessions by SAPOL and firefighters.

A copy of this package has been

sent to each brigade to assist when conducting school visits.

For further information contact John Gawen on 8463 4127.

## [FIRE PREVENTION SERVICES BRAVES THE ELEMENTS]

**By: Phil McDonough**

Whilst most of the state dealt with the cold weather mid-June, the Prevention Services team huddled in front of their heaters and braved freezing temperatures in the Flinders Ranges.

The Prevention Team gathered in the Flinders Ranges for a two-day meeting to discuss and debate regional bushfire prevention planning issues, some of which were

issues raised from the *Report of the Independent Review into the Circumstances Surrounding the Eyre Peninsula Fires of 11 and 12 January 2005* (commonly known as the Dr Bob Smit report.)

All but two members of the team took the opportunity to soak up the ambience in what is considered by many to be one of the most wonderful natural environments in

SA, by camping out the night before the meeting.

As the temperature plummeted below zero at Hawker, we estimated that the temperature at the campsite in Bunyeroo Gorge went down as low as minus five or six. The official readings at Hawker were minus 3.5 degrees Celcius.

Despite the cold weather, some good discussions and debates

occurred on a number of topics ranging from legislation and the use of mechanical cutting tools, through to building fire safety issues.

This was one of the forums used to progress issues that have been raised by council Fire Prevention Officers, with feedback being provided to the Fire Prevention Officers at the next State FPO symposium.



# [CFS BUILT ENVIRONMENT UNIT]

An increasing number of building and property owners (both residential and commercial) are contacting CFS brigades to seek advice on the 'Essential Safety Provisions' for their properties.

Many of these enquiries have come as a result of the Building Code of Australia changing from a prescriptive code to a fluid performance-based system for construction, utilizing alternative solutions meeting the performance requirements and /or the deemed-to-satisfy provisions of the Building Code. — *In simple terms, there are no longer 'cut and dry' answers.*

The CFS Built Environs Unit has been set up to assist building and property owners with information on the 'Essential Safety Provisions' of

the *Building Code of Australia, SA Development Act 1993*.

These 'Essential Safety Provisions' include advice on water supply and storage, portable fire extinguishers, emergency lighting, fire detection and suppression systems, compartmentation, building separation, fire resistance, access and egress, fire services and equipment etc.

There has been an increasing emphasis and awareness of the need to comply with the Code since the fatal fire at the Childers Backpacker Hostel in June 2000 and it is essential the information provided is only given by people qualified to provide this technical information - and within CFS this is the Built Environs Unit.

Whilst the efforts of volunteers in

providing their community and peers with information on building fire safety are recognized, this type of enquiry must be referred to the Built Environments Unit to ensure that the correct information is provided. The CFS may be held liable and the property owner significantly out of pocket if the incorrect information is provided, even if this has been with good intentions.

As well as providing information to individuals, the Built Environs Unit also provides advice to the CFS on building fire safety matters and represents the CFS on national committees with Australasian Fire Authorities Council and standards committee's. The unit also investigates public complaints on Building building Fire fire Safety safety issues when they are in CFS

areas, and provides advice to local council building fire safety committees.

Max McAlister is the relevant contact officer with the unit. Max has recently completed compliance testing for the upgrade to 16 country Aged aged Care care and Hospital hospital facilities ensuring that the relevant building codes are met in relation to fire and smoke compartmentation, water supply, fire suppression and detection systems in those buildings.

Please ensure that all Building Fire Safety enquiries in your area onto Max McAlister, CFS Senior Built Environment Officer on 08 8204 3653. This is in line with the CFS Operational Bulletin 4 / 2004.



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VOLUNTEER - NEWS & UPDATES

## [CFS BUILT ENVIRONMENT UNIT AT WORK]

A component of a commercial building development application requires that the relevant Fire Authority tests fire and smoke control, suppression and/or detection systems installed in commercial buildings to ensure they meet the requirements of various codes before they are occupied.

This is to ensure that the design of the fire suppression or detection systems installed are functional and are fit for purpose.

The CFS Built Environment Unit was asked to test these elements in the Big W store at Stage II of the extensions to the Seaford Shopping Centre, around 40 minutes to the south of Adelaide on 3 July.

The Metropolitan Fire Service was also involved in the test, supplying the equipment to generate the

artificial smoke, using a mentholated spirit fire and artificial smoke tablets.

The aim was to fill the area with the artificial smoke, to test the smoke extraction and detection system in a simulated fire scenario.

Further testing will be required in the Woolworths and mall areas of the building to ensure the whole facility meets the required standards.

Additionally, Max McCallister, Senior Built Environs Officer has just recently completed compliance testing for the upgrade to 16 aged care and hospital facilities in regional South Australia, ensuring that the relevant building codes are met in relation to fire and smoke compartmentation, water supply, fire suppression and detection systems in those buildings.

The area was filled with smoke to test extraction systems.



# [ CFS HERITAGE WORKING PARTY ]

Many SA Country Fire Service (CFS) volunteers and staff have for some time recognised the need to preserve the heritage of the CFS, and a working party has recently been established dedicated to that. The SA Country Fire Service (CFS) and SA Volunteer Fire Brigades Association (SAVFBA)

have agreed to join forces to form this working party to keep alive the memories of the proud achievements of past firefighters.

The working party comprises of Rex Hall, SA VFBA as chair, Wayne Byrne CFS, Technical Services Project Officer, Wayne Ellard, SAVFBA and John Forster SAVFBA.

Euan Ferguson, CFS Chief Officer and Ken Schutz, SAVFBA State President will also be assisting with advice.

The committee has acquired some CFS equipment and several recently decommissioned trucks from Arno Bay and Stirling CFS.

To ensure the materials collected

will be securely housed, a medium term storage facility has been found in Naracoorte.

In order to keep this project going, financial assistance and donations of SA Country Fire Service equipment is greatly needed. If you can assist, please contact Rex Hall on 0417 081 560.

## [ REVIEWING SFEC POLICY ]

By: Mal Watts, Manager Operation Support Services

The SA Country Fire Service has commenced a review of the Standards of Fire and Emergency Cover (SFEC).

These standards were last reviewed in the late 1990's and this review will see a significant amount of work undertaken. The review presents a number of opportunities for improvement, however the review is not as simple as just updating brigade SFEC prescriptions.

A project team has been established to review a number of SFEC elements, inclusive of data sets and all other linkages.

A consultation and communications strategy will be developed to ensure that, as the project develops, any changes are communicated.

The review will impact CFS functional areas and some systems of work and the project team will ensure that those affected are fully consulted.

Due to the magnitude of this project, it is likely to be completed in mid- 2007.

## [SACAD UPDATE]

By: Gary Bau, Communications Coordinator

As the CFS prepares to transition its Call, Receipt, Dispatch to the Wakefield Street Comcen and become a user of the SACAD system, we are providing information sessions to volunteers.

These sessions are initially in Regions 1, 2 and 3, as these will be the first regions to transition, however it is planned to progressively hold these sessions in other regions.

The information sessions provide an overview of Computer Aided Dispatch, Call Receipt Dispatch and the process that will be needed to collect brigade response data.

They also assist in helping brigades to determine their actual brigade response area and the appropriate resources relevant to the incident type.

Under the SACAD system, appropriate resources will be determined irrespective of group, regional or state boundaries. The determination will be made to ensure that the 'right response, at the right location at the right time to deal with the incident in the right way' occurs.

As brigades determine their response areas in conjunction with their Group and Region, the CRD transition project will capture this response data and prepare the data for input into the CAD.

The sessions have been well attended with many questions answered.

For further information on SACAD project contact Gary Bau on 08 4863 4200 or via email [bau.gary@cfs.org.au](mailto:bau.gary@cfs.org.au)

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# [REPORT RECKLESS DRIVING]

In May 2006, SA Police (SAPOL) launched 'Traffic Watch', a campaign that encourages road users to report dangerous driving and help put reckless drivers on notice.

The campaign is aimed at reducing the number of deaths and serious injuries on SA roads, as well as reckless road behaviour.

The top 10 dangerous driving behaviours are:

- Drink driving
- Speeding
- Inattention
- Children without a seatbelt
- Speaking on a mobile phone
- Erratic driving
- Dangerous overtaking
- Very loud music
- Disobeying traffic lights
- 'Hoon' driving.

If you see dangerous driving such as tailgating, running red lights,

speeding and burnouts, report it immediately by calling 131 444 or visit your local police station.

Under SAPOL's Traffic Watch procedure there will be an immediate patrol response to extremely serious reports. Those reports that don't require immediate patrol attendance will be logged and assessed.

The complaint may then be issued for further investigation or the suspect vehicle owner may receive a

warning letter. More than one complaint received by Traffic Watch for a particular vehicle may also result in the registered owner being visited by a police officer.

Besides the identifying bad drivers, part of the aim of Traffic Watch is to enable the community to make our roads safer and encourage an attitude amongst all road users that road safety is everyone's responsibility.

## [SALVATION ARMY TAKES DELIVERY OF NEW EQUIPMENT]

The Salvation Army's ability to provide exceptional support and commitment to the CFS has been bolstered with the receipt of some new equipment.

Taking on board feedback from last fire season, the Salvation Army Emergency Services (SAES) sought assistance from the Australian Hotels Association (AHA) to resolve the problem of volunteers being served salads at ambient temperatures during incidents.

The AHA kindly donated a mobile cool room, and the SAES has recently taken delivery of a new Nissan Navara, five seater dual cab diesel ute which is able to tow the fully laden cool room.

This unit has been financed entirely by an Emergency Management Australia grant, which will also come in handy for transporting the new generator that SAES has received, which will bolster their capacity.

On the training front, SAES have also applied for training resources to ensure their volunteers comply with the food handling regulations and are suitably trained. We believe that they have been successful with this grant as well.

It is great to see the support the SAES is receiving support. They have supported us on many occasions during past fire seasons.



## [WHAT NUMBER ARE YOU DIALLING?]

Some of you may still be calling 08 8297 9111 as an emergency number.

That number has not officially been in use for a number of years, and due to the planned transition of all CFS emergency numbers to 000, this number will no longer be in service.

Any brigades that have this number listed as a contact for CFS HQ should immediately replace it with 08 8463 4222.

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# CFS VOLUNTEER COMMENDED FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

By: George Adler, Mount Lofty Tower Brigade



Craig proudly receiving his commendation from the Governor of South Australia.

**C**FS volunteer Craig Harris was awarded a Commendation for Brave Conduct on the 4 April 2006.

The former Captain of Yankalilla CFS received the award from Her Excellency, Marjorie Jackson-Nelson AC, CVO, MBE, Governor of South Australia at an Investiture at Government House.

The Commendation was awarded by the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia on behalf of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, and states 'Be it known that, with the authority of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The

Second, Queen of Australia, I have awarded the Commendation of Brave Conduct to Craig Harris.'

On the afternoon of 16 June 2001, Mr Harris helped locate and move to safety an injured man following an industrial fire in Moomba, South Australia.

Mr Harris was working as a Senior Emergency Co-ordinator at the Santos gas plant in Moomba when he responded to an alarm following an explosion.

Arriving at the site, he helped extinguish the fire. Assisted by another man, he equipped himself with breathing apparatus and

entered the building to search for a missing process operator.

Despite poor visibility, they were able to locate the man who was wedged between pipes and had suffered extensive burns to his body.

After a further explosion and with the help of three other men, Mr Harris freed the process operator and carried him from the building to a waiting ambulance.

Mr Harris later drove the ambulance from the medical centre to the Moomba Aerodrome and assisted in lifting the man onto an aircraft. Tragically, the man died from his injuries.

The Commendation is a sprig of mimosa mounted on a ribbon of plain arterial red colour. The insignia set consisted of the main piece, miniature, lapel badge and a ribbon bar.

As a result of receiving this award, Craig has been invited to join the "Order of Australia Association" and the "Australian Bravery Association".

Previously Craig has been awarded The National Medal with clasp, The British Fire Service Association Silver Medal for 20 years service along with 3 three silver bars for 5 five years each denoting a total of 35 years service, The International Year of the Volunteer.

## [A TRIBUTE TO CFS VOLUNTEERS]

## [NOVITA 'CONVOY FOR KIDS']

**A** sculpture dedicated to CFS volunteers has been entered into the Royal South Australian Society of Arts exhibition (RSASA).

Designed and developed by former CFS volunteer and sculptor Reneta Slikboer, the statue weighing 45 kilograms was on display at the RSASA gallery in North Terrace as part of the 150th anniversary of the RSASA.

In the statement submitted to event organisers, Reneta describes her rationale for the sculpture.

"This is dedicated to the 16,400 volunteers who attend 7,000 incidents each year.

The volunteer carries a toy lamb, as a symbol of life.

"CFS Volunteers continue to make immeasurable contributions to South Australia, giving of their time freely and making personal sacrifices to protect life and property.

"It is this spirit of protecting others that they pass on to the next generation."

To support Reneta a number of volunteers from Keyneton CFS travelled to Adelaide to view the exhibition.

**V**olunteers from Salisbury, Virginia, Meadows and Gumeracha CFS took part in the 2006 'Convoy for Kids' held on Sunday 28 May.

This annual event is the largest charity truck convoy of its type in the world and gives children with disabilities, and their families the chance to take part in the 'ride of a lifetime' on a variety of trucks around the streets of Adelaide.

More than 500 children and 350 trucks were involved in this year's event, which is expected to raise almost \$50,000 for this children's charity.

The CFS volunteers who took part in this year's convoy are lining up to participate again next year!

Novita Children's Services provides equipment, therapy and family support to more than 1,000 South Aussie kids with physical disabilities, so the

CFS volunteers had no problems giving their time to help out.

Robert Styling, Captain, Salisbury CFS says that is one event that Salisbury CFS has supported for numerous years.

"All of the brigade members feel very strongly about very strongly about Novita's cause, and happily give a bit more of their time to this worthy event," Rob said.

"The Convoy for Kids event has lead to the kids visiting the staion to see how CFS operate."

✓ Riding in firetrucks and playing with water – a great day for all involved.



^ 'Volunteer' is made from granite and bronze and stands 85cm tall.





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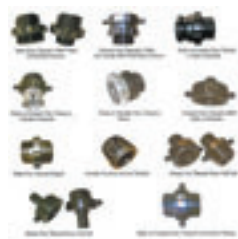
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[REGIONAL ROUND-UP]

# [ EXERCISE EDGE ]

**By: Daniel Austin, Regional Training Officer**

**E**xercise Edge was a dual purpose multi-agency exercise conducted over the weekend of 27 and 28 May in the Horsnell Gully Quarry, near Norton Summit.

Stage one of the exercise involved rolling a former passenger bus down a 35-metre screed slope, with the help of an excavator.

The bus contained nine dummies and two specialized cameras inside the bus - and it sure looked like a hair-raising ride.

The Adelaide University Centre for Automotive Safety Research used the opportunity to do a study of the deformation of the bus.

The Centre also looked into the likely injuries that would have been caused if this had been a 'real life' incident, as well as researching the effect that a seatbelt would have on any injuries.

Sunday was Stage two of Exercise Edge and saw a large multi-agency

exercise, involving approximately 100 CFS personnel (from Stirling, Burnside, Norton Summit/Ashton, Basket Range & East Torrens Group, Region 1 Operations Brigade, Mt Lofty Group and Region 1HQ), as well as SA Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS), State Emergency Service (SES), SA Ambulance Service (SAAS) & SA Police (SAPOL).

The exercise was designed to test an emergency response to this kind of incident in or around the Adelaide Hills, and put crews under great pressure to rescue 10 live, simulated casualties.

A special thank you must go to Hank Van Kaathoven of Bus Stop Adelaide and Bob Darragh of Torrens Transit, both Stirling CFS members, for not only donating the bus, but also for the hours of work they put into restoring the bus to a semi-original condition.

A huge thanks must also go to

Michael Harvey and his team at Hanson Quarries for not only the use of their facility, but also for the amazing amount of work that they did in preparing the site, moving the bus and sending it to its final resting place at the bottom of the hill.

Other organisations that require our thanks include Shipp Brother's Towing, Channel 9, Bus Stop Sales & Service (Brisbane) and Australian Studios.

Everybody involved thought that it was an amazing exercise, and television coverage went national on Channel 9.

The planning for the next one is already underway!

^ Such a scenario involves a multi agency response

>> As part of the exercise a bus was rolled 35 metres down an embankment



## [A NIGHT WITH EDEN HILLS]

**By: Bill Corcoran, Naracoorte CFS**

**O**ne cold Friday evening I was invited to attend a hazardous materials training session with Eden Hills CFS in the Belair National Park.

I was there to take photos for the VFBA Promotions Unit website but soon after arriving it became apparent to me that I was not the only one interested in capturing the events of the night.

Once the appliances had arrived and crews had set up, I was introduced to award-winning journalist and BBC radio documentary producer Sharon Mascall, wife of brigade member Paul Dare, who was there to do filming for a documentary.

After the January 2006 Sellicks Hill fire, which the brigade attended as part of a strike team, Sharon filmed a documentary about bushfire's in Australia which was of great interest for the BBC's Worldservice Radio Service.

Eden Hills brigade is now the second brigade in the State that has been involved with the international media. Around 18 months ago, Naracoorte CFS was involved in a documentary filmed by the ABC and aired throughout the Asia Pacific region.

I would like to thank the Eden Hills CFS for allowing me to come along to training and take photos.

## [NORTON SUMMIT HOUSE FIRE]

**F**ire caused more than \$150,000 damage to a house at Norton Summit in the Adelaide Hills on 29 May.

Country Fire Service (CFS) volunteers were alerted to the incident just after 6pm and arrived to find smoke issuing from the Greenvalley Drive house.

CFS firefighters from Norton Summit and Summertown CFS wearing breathing apparatus entered the house and were able to contain the fire to one room.

Fire Cause Investigators determined that the blaze started due to a buildup of carbon in the flue of the fireplace.

This blockage caused heat to be directed back down the flue into the fireplace and throughout the room involved, igniting a number of books and papers left nearby.



^ Firefighters contained the blaze to one room.



## [THREE STOREY HOME GOES UP IN FLAMES]

**F**ire caused an estimated \$350,000 damage to house at Woodcroft on 15 June.

Firefighters from CFS and MFS arrived at the Pine Rd home shortly after 1pm to find the top level of the three-storey structure well involved in flames.

It took firefighters almost an hour to contain the blaze, which broke through the roof of the home and caused significant damage.

The top floor of the property was completely destroyed by fire, with the lower two floors significantly

damaged by smoke and water.

CFS and SES volunteers spent several hours assisting to salvage what furnishings they could from the lower levels

Fire Cause Investigators were unable to determine an exact cause, however it is believed that the fire started as a result of an electric blanket that was left on a couch to keep the cat warm.

The cat was long gone before firefighters arrived and is believed to have survived with most of its nine lives.

>> Smoke, water and flames damaged much of the home.  
Photo: Ian Taverner



<< The fire started in the top level of the home.  
Photo: Ian Taverner

## [A BIG WEEKEND FOR LOBETHAL]

By: Klaus Stichel, Brigade Communications Officer

**L**obethal CFS station was a hive of activity on Sunday 4 June with a visit from the Minister for Emergency Services, Hon Carmel Zollo, to mark a number of significant events, all pulled into the one occasion.

Lobethal CFS has recently received a new 2 4 P and the Minister not only commissioned it but also officially opened an addition to the fire station and presented a number of service awards to brigade members.

The day also recognised the handover of two new State Emergency Service vehicles to the SES unit.

The Minister, in her speech to the gathering, expressed her appreciation to the volunteers of the brigade, some of whom are also members of the State Emergency Service, for their continued dedication and the service to the community.

She also made mention of the long history associated with the Lobethal Brigade, formed in 1928, one of the oldest in the state.

Following her speech, the Minister invited Geoff Weidenhofer, Captain Lobethal CFS, to accept the keys to the new 2 4 P appliance.

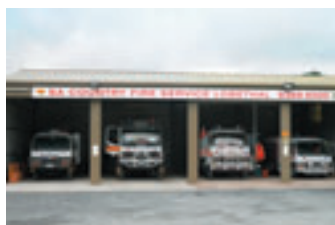
The ceremony also commissioned the two new State Emergency Service vehicles. These vehicles are specifically designed for road crash rescue and general purpose rescue/salvage.

The Deputy Chief Officer, Mr Andrew Lawson, presented CFS Life Membership certificates to Chris Cotton, Phil Schultz and David Dearman.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Captain Weidenhofer recognised with pleasure the brigade members who, in some cases, have served more than 30 years with the brigade and who continued to assist the community in the time of need.

The additions to the fire station were commemorated with a plaque, unveiled jointly by the Honourable Carmel Zollo and Mark Goldsworthy MP. The additions include a new personal protective equipment (PPE) storage area and mezzanine level meeting room.

Thanks were extended to the ladies who operate the CFS Opp Shop and the Ladies Support Group whose fundraising efforts contributed to the building of the additions.



Lobethal CFS & SES Station



New Lobethal 24P

## [CHIEF OFFICER'S COMMENDATION FOR KI CADET]

By: Parndana CFS

**D**avid Heatly, a 15-year-old cadet from Parndana CFS, recently received a Chief Officer's Commendation for his assistance during the Mouth Flat fires in January 2006.

Regional Commander Mark Thomason said that David came down to the fire station during the fire and was given one task that eventually led to another and another.

Before long it was realised that David had worked close to the same shift as the Incident Management Team, assisting with anything he could from photocopying the Incident Action Plans through to helping to

distribute food and running errands.

Mark says, "The involvement of cadets in this situation is often overlooked.

"David's effort and the manner in which he conducted himself during the fire was exemplary and a credit to himself and his brigade."

Mark and Kangaroo Island Group Officer, Terry May, presented the award to David.



>> A very proud recipient of a Chief Officer's Commendation.

## [YANKALILLA SHED FIRE]

**F**ire caused about \$100,000 damage to a shed and its contents on a vineyard at Yankalilla on 19 April.

About 15 SA Country Fire Service volunteer firefighters responded to the blaze on a private property on South Road around 2.30pm.

CFS crews were able to save a tractor, two cars and a house which were just metres away from the burning shed.

An electrical fault has been identified as the cause of the blaze, which destroyed the shed and several barrels of wine.

## [COMPETITION WINNER] By: Lyssa Liebelt

**C**ongratulations to Tannicka Liebelt, an active cadet with Nairne CFS, who recently won a Studio 2000 photographic competition. As part of her photography sessions she took her personal protective equipment and had her photographs taken in that

## [NEW STATION FOR STRATHALBYN]

**S**trathalbyn CFS officially opened their new fire station on Forrest Road on Sunday 28 May.

The CFS station is also a group control base and boasts a large meeting room, radio room, equipment storage area and three appliance bays.

The base was officially opened by Region 1 Commander Mark Thomason, with special guests including Euan Ferguson, CFS

Chief Officer, Kym McHugh, Alexandrina Council Mayor, Anne Woolford, Deputy Mayor, Geoff Jarrett, Councillor and Alan Oliver, Councillor.

As part of the opening, Don Maddern, Captain Strathalbyn CFS, welcomed everyone and extended thanks to the Alexandrina Council and to Colin Gambling, the local SES controller, for sharing their premises with the CFS while the new station was being built.

## [\$150,000 BLAZE AT PENNESHAW]

**F**ire caused in excess of \$150,000 damage to a house at Penneshaw on 13 July.

Volunteers from the SA Country Fire Service (CFS) were alerted to the fire in the North Terrace home just after 7pm.

When volunteers arrived, they found the two-storey natural stone cottage well alight in the roof space.

It took 25 firefighters from three CFS brigades around an hour to contain the blaze.

Due to the risk of the roof collapsing, volunteers wearing breathing apparatus fought the blaze from outside the home, and were able to save around half of the property.

Fire Cause Investigators travelled to the property and have determined that the cause of the fire was accidental.

The occupant of the property was not home at the time of the incident.



^ Strathalbyn CFS in front of the new station.  
Photo: Ashley Hosking



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**[REGIONAL ROUND-UP]**

# [CLARE] HOUSE FIRE

**F**ire caused close to \$50,000 damage to a house at Clare on 4 May.

Firefighters from Clare, Sevenhill, Mintaro and Rhynie contained the blaze to the front room and kitchen, preventing flames from spreading to the remainder of the house.

Fire Cause Investigators found that the fire had started at a faulty power point in the corner of the lounge room.

Plastic and fabric close to the powerpoint ignited and helped to spread the fire.



**Extensive damage to the lounge room and kitchen**  
**Photo: Barry Gordon – Clare CFS**

## [BFF1 AT SHEAOAK LOG]

**By: Linda Alderslade, Light Group Admin Officer.**

**S**heaoak Log Station was the venue for more than 20 volunteers from the Light and Angaston Group as they undertook their Basic Firefighter One Course on 1, 2 and 9 April. A number of volunteers from other Region 2 brigades, including the Operations brigade, took the opportunity to attend all of parts of the course as an 'upskill'.

Light Group Officer, Ray Bryant, opened the weekend by welcoming all and conducting the first lesson.

The first Saturday and Sunday morning had a strong theoretical component but the afternoons were spent in fun practical exercises, where the new volunteers were put through their paces to reinforce the theories they had learnt earlier in the day.

The new volunteers were 'hands on' using hose fittings and adaptors, branches and nozzles, hand tools and ancillary equipment, water supplies, knots, lines and ladders.

This practical element also reinforced to a couple of volunteers the need to check equipment closely, as hoses don't work too well without washers – you can get very wet!

On the 9 April, the course attendees boarded the appliances

as the course moved to the Wetlands at Freeling for Pumping Exercises. On return to Sheaoak Log, the trainees were taught how to use fire extinguishers before heading back into the classroom to finish off the course with an Introduction to Hazardous Materials, Respond to a Road Crash and Introduction to Australian Interservice Incident Management System.

Thank you to Sheaoak Log, Freeling, Roseworthy, Mallala, Greenock and Nuriootpa CFS brigades for the use of their appliances, and to coordinator Graeme Tregeagle, and instructors Ray Bryant, Sonia Post, James Patterson, Terry McGuirk and Simon Johnson for their efforts.

It was pleasing to see so many new members coming into the organisation.



**Learning to sink a Stanpipe.**

## [REGION TWO NATIONAL MEDAL PRESENTATION]

**S**ore than 20 CFS volunteers from Region 2 received service medals at the annual Region 2 presentation night on Friday 5 May.

Special guest including the Hon. Minister Carmel Zollo, MP Tony Piccolo, and Deputy Chief Officer Mr Andrew Lawson joined the crowd of 50 people for an enjoyable evening, which not only recognised the service of CFS volunteers but also the employers of CFS volunteers.

The evening, held at Café Nova in Gawler, saw the volunteers from 15 brigades receive their awards – a mix of Nation Medals, 1st clasps and 2nd clasps.

A further 19 volunteers were also recognised for their service, however were not able to attend to receive their awards.

Congratulations to the following volunteers, who were recognised on the night, Stanley Barrand, Michael Boehm, Vincenzo Cozzitorto, Bevis Dixon, Roger Grigg (deceased), Leon Kemp, Greg Mason, Geoffrey Pettit,

Button Rodney, Michael Sandford, Andrew Tapscott, David Kroehn, William Tapscott, Damien Bode, Colin Bolt, Dawn Brown, j Raymond Brownbill, Andrew Clark, Fred D'Antignana, Geoffrey Docking, Chris Donohue, Scott Griffiths, Anthony Griffiths, April Grocke, Peter Hayden, Andrew Hogg, Scott Jarvis, Richard MacDonald, Geoffrey Meaney, Andrew Mount, Raymond Murphy, Philip Nietschke, Trevor Norris, Anthony Paul, Ted Russell, Jason Sabeeney, David Saegenschnitter, Frank Schulz, Dean Thomas, Peter Thredgold (deceased), Anthony Whitehorn, Robert Williamson.



**Photo: Julie Paterson – Region 2 VSO**

## [ANGLE VALE SHOP FIRE]

**V**olunteers from Dalkeith and Virginia were called to a building fire on Angle Vale Road, Angle Vale around 1.30am on 25 June.

When firefighters arrived they found the pizza shop well alight.

Firefighters wearing breathing apparatus quickly set to work not only to contain the blaze but also to rescue as many birds from the adjoining pet store as possible.

Firefighters made a forced entry to the pizza shop to fight the blaze and to stop it spreading to other shops in the complex.

Four CFS appliances and around 18 firefighters fought the blaze, which caused an estimated \$50,000 damage.

Fire Cause Investigators determined that the blaze started as a result a pizza oven being built too close to a wall, and the heat generated not being able to escape.

The radiant heat generated caused fire to occur in the studwork of the wall, with the fire spreading from there.

Swift action by the volunteers resulted in more than 70 birds being saved from a nearby pet shop and damage to the other three shops in the complex was limited to smoke damage.



**The fire was contained to the pizza shop.**

## [ONE NIGHT, MANY MEMORIES]

By: Salisbury CFS

Salisbury CFS celebrated its 63rd birthday with a gathering on Monday 19 June.

Special guests Euan Ferguson, CFS Chief Officer and Jennifer Rankine, Minister for Volunteers were in attendance to hear a number of past brigade members telling stories of 'the old days'.

The night was also special for a number of other reasons, one celebratory and the other more solemn.

Two volunteers from Salisbury CFS were recognised for their service and efforts with a Meritorious Service Award on behalf of the British Fire Services Association (BFSA).

Much to their surprise, Frank Dunn and Brian Menadue received a Meritorious Service Award from Euan Ferguson on behalf of the BFSA.

Frank and Brian are the only two recipients of this award in Australia, which is given to honour fire service related reasons, including outstanding and continued service and humane deeds by the BFSA.

Salisbury CFS has had an affiliation with the British Fire Services for many years.

Derrick Crouch, General Secretary BFSA emailed the brigade saying, "the association feels proud that we have members that show such dedication to our common enemy –



^ Frank and Brian proudly display their Meritorious Service Awards.

fire. Please pass on our very best wishes and congratulations to an award that has been richly deserved."

The evening also involved the dedication of a memorial garden to the late wife of Frank Dunn.

Shirley passed away in 2004, having been the wife of a brigade captain and the daughter of former captain Keith Abbott.

In the dedication of the garden, the brigade recognised that Shirley represented one of those many family members who support from behind the scenes and members of the brigade felt it was important that this support was acknowledged.

Without the support of family members, it would be difficult for many of the volunteers to be as actively involved. This is one way we can acknowledge this contribution these supporters make.

## [A CLOSE CALL FOR OCCUPANTS]

Fire caused an estimated \$100,000 damage to house at Andrews Farm early morning on Monday 26 June.

Around 15 firefighters from the Dalkeith CFS and the Metropolitan Fire Service arrived at the Commodore Parade home shortly after 1am to find the home well involved in flames.

The occupant was alerted to the fire when she heard the sound of breaking glass and had a lucky escape from the property by throwing a chair through a window at the rear of the home.

The kitchen was well alight when firefighters arrived and despite the best efforts of firefighters, the blaze destroyed more than half of the home

before it was brought under control.

Fire Cause Investigators attended the scene and confirmed that the fire started after cooking oil was left on a hot stove.

During the investigation it was found that the smoke alarms installed in the property were not fitted with batteries.

^ The fire started in the kitchen of the home.



## [CFS FIREFIGHTERS BRIGHTEN SMILES FOR LYNDOKH STUDENTS]

By: Shane Emms, Lyndoch CFS

On 23 May, volunteers from Lyndoch CFS were invited to visit the Lyndoch Valley Family Centre (kindy).

The kindy has been looking at Helpers in the Community and thought it was a perfect opportunity to introduce the young children to firefighters.

The CFS volunteers explained what their role is within the community, what to do in case of an emergency and took the children through 'STOP, DROP AND ROLL' and 'GET DOWN LOW AND GO GO GO!' to reinforce what they need to do in case of a building fire.

The firefighters showed the children the breathing apparatus and turn out gear and gave them a chance to play 'dress ups' with it. They were also taken outside to watch the firefighters using high-pressure lines

and were then able to have fun climbing in, out and around Lyndoch 3 4 and Lyndoch 1 4 appliances.

Two weeks later the volunteers visited the St Jakobi Primary school and held an information session, where the students were able to use the high-pressure lines on the oval and go for a ride in the Lyndoch 1 4 under lights and sirens.



^ After a fun day with the firefighters.

## [HOME DESTROYED AT ARDROSSAN]

Around midday on Saturday 15 July, CFS volunteers from Ardrossan, Port Clinton, and Maitland responded to a house fire to the north of Ardrossan.

When firefighters arrived at the house of Main Coast Road, they found the structure well involved in flames.

Around 20 firefighters worked to contain the blaze, which started when a log rolled out of a slow combustion heater onto cork floor tiles which caught alight, with the fire spreading to a nearby lounge suite.

In their haste, the owner broke a window and strong winds in the area fanned the flames, eventually destroying the home and leaving a damage bill of \$250,000.

Volunteers from Kadina CFS travelled to assist with the significant amount of mopping up required, with crews still wearing breathing apparatus as they worked on the property several hours later.

The owner was transported to hospital suffering minor burns.

Thank you to MFS Officer Hayden Castle for reporting the incident and for rendering first aid to the occupant.



^ A log rolling from the combustion heater started the blaze.



^ The house was destroyed by the blaze.



# **[PINNAROO]**

## **CFS AWARDS NIGHT**

**By: Ken Schutz**

**M**ore than 50 people, including members, partners and invited guests, attended the awards night at the Pinnaroo Hotel on 23 June.

Pinnaroo CFS put on a dinner for everyone in attendance in recognition of services rendered to the CFS and for the support of their partners.

Special guests included; Chris Martin, Region 3 Regional Commander and his wife Jen, Richard Patching, the local Police Constable and his wife, John Ramke, Southern Mallee Mayor, Blue Wyatt, CFA Murrayville Group Officer and his wife, and Russell Norman, CFS Mallee Group Officer.

Karl Kehl, Captain Pinnaroo CFS, said that the awards evening was the first one that the brigade had held for several years.

"All volunteers need to be recognised for their contribution to the community," he said.

"We have 21 firefighters and auxiliary members, but are always seeking more members as most of our members work in the agricultural or horticultural industries outside of town.

"We would like more town members as response time is critical.

"We live on a main highway and a number of our callouts are to vehicle accidents."

Chris Martin, Regional Commander, presented a number of service awards for 10, 20 and 30 years of service, but the highlight was the presentation of the National Medals and Clasps.

Karl Kehl and Micheal Fuller were awarded their Second Clasp to the National Medal in recognition of 35 years diligent service, David Lloyd was awarded his First Clasp in recognition of 25 years diligent service and Mark Lawson, Anthony McBride and Ken Schutz were awarded the National Medal in recognition of 15 years diligent service.



**Standing – RC3 Chris Martin, Ken Schutz National Medal, Tom Eisen 10yrs, David Lloyd First Clasp Nat. Medal, Craig Jenzen 10yrs, Mark Lawson National Medal, Brian O'Loughlin 10yrs, Clint Muster 10yrs, Al Gruen 10yrs, Anthony McBride National Medal, Chris Black 10yrs, Michael Fuller Second Clasp Nat. Medal Seated – Pinnaroo Captain Karl Kehl Second Clasp Nat. Medal, Tracy Schutz 10yrs, Barb Kehl 20yrs, Lorraine Blacksell 20yrs, Lorraine Parsons 20yrs, Julie Fuller 10yrs.**



**David Lloyd First Clasp Nat. Medal, Ken Schutz National Medal, RC3 Chris Martin, Pinnaroo Captain Karl Kehl Second Clasp Nat. Medal, Mark Lawson National Medal, Michael Fuller Second Clasp Nat. Medal, Anthony McBride National Medal.**

Ken Schutz, SAVFBA President said the night was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

"I encourage every CFS brigade to have social get togethers and awards evenings whenever

possible," Ken said.

"It gives the brigade a chance to get together socially, and at the same time promotes the efforts of the brigade to the community."

## **[LEVEL 3 A BIG HIT IN THE RIVERLAND]**

**By: Corey Frazer, Training Officer**

**T**he banks of the Murray River proved to be a picturesque backdrop for a Level 3 firefighting course run in the Riverland on the weekend of 2–4 June.

A few welcome additions from the Chaffey Group joined volunteers from each brigade in the Mid Murray Group for an action packed weekend.

Firefighters learnt both the theory and practical elements of how to deal with structure fires, fire investigation, how to work with electricity, LPG gas, flammable liquids, chemical protection clothing

and decontamination procedures.

The gas prop exercise really got the 'troops' enthused and tested their appliance capabilities.

The weekend was well co-ordinated by Dave Stacy, Mid Murray Group Training Officer and was well supported by the Blanchetown RSL. The Go Kart Club also opened their facilities to allow us to run a 'hydraulic ventilation' drill.

All of the instructors were very impressed by the enthusiasm of the group and special thanks must go the volunteer instructors who assisted.

## **[RUBBISH FIRE AT MONARTO]**

**V**olunteers from Monarto and Murray Bridge CFS responded to a rubbish fire just to the south of Monarto on 10 July.

When volunteers arrived at the private property, they found a pit

approximately 20 metres by three metres wide and four metres deep, full of rubbish was alight.

The rubbish was a mix of wood, metal, rubber and chemical drums.

Fanned by strong winds and the

fire quickly spread through nearby dry vegetation.

Firefighters were able to extinguish the fire before it reach nearby roadside vegetation.



**Level 3 prop getting a workout**

**[REGIONAL ROUND-UP]****[FOURTH AVENUE HOUSE GOES  
UP IN SMOKE]**

**V**olunteers from Port Germein and Napperby CFS responded to a house fire at Port Germein on 25 May.

When firefighters arrived at the property in Fourth Street, just before 11.30pm, the house was well ablaze.

The fire is believed to have started in the kitchen area and despite the best efforts of firefighters, the older

style home was gutted.

Damage was estimated at more than \$50,000 and Fire Cause Investigators were unable to determine an exact cause of the fire, however it is believed to have been started by an electrical fault.

The final CFS volunteers eventually left the scene just before 5am.

**[AIIMS COURSE HELD IN REGION 4]**

**R**egion 4 was the venue for an Australasian Interservice Incident Management System (AIIMS) training course on the weekend of 24–25 June.

Held at the regional headquarters, the 15 volunteers who attended travelled from across the region, with the majority coming from pastoral areas.

The course was delivered by Vince

Monterola, former CFS CEO, Rob Sandford, Manager Operations Planning and Bluey Devine, Regional Operations Planning Officer.

After two very full days the participants declared “it wasn’t as scary as they first thought,” and that some of them “already did some of the AIIMS principals, they just didn’t know they did.”

**[THE WEIGHBRIDGE  
IS OUT OF ACTION]**

**S**tirling North CFS, as well as Port Augusta MFS and SES crews, were called to a vehicle accident at the TransportSA weighbridge on National Highway One near Port Augusta, just after 6.00am on Saturday 6 May.

Thick fog reduced had reduced visibility to less than 10 metres, which significantly slowed the response of rescue crews down.

When crews arrived they were confronted with a spectacular sight. A truck had hit the weighbridge

**[REGION 4 HOLDS  
PASTORAL SEMINAR]**

**R**egion 4 held a seminar for its pastoral brigades on the weekend of 29–30 July.

Region 4 has nine brigades without any group affiliation who are referred to as pastoral brigades.

These brigades often work in isolation and can be hundreds of kilometres away from back up or support and are largely self sufficient.

Representatives from Andamooka, Coober Pedy, Glendambo, Marree, Roxby Downs and Woomera attended the seminar held at the Region 4 headquarters in Port Augusta.

Many of the people attending travelled for several hours, but made the trip recognising the importance of getting together.

The seminar was held to ensure that despite the distances, the brigades are kept up to date with what is happening within the organisation and to work through how they can be better supported.

Andrew Lawson, Deputy Chief Officer, spoke to the volunteers and staff and VFBA representatives in attendance about the issues and challenges the organisation is

facing at the moment and the plans to move forward and address these.

Ken Schutz, President SAVFBA, spoke to the volunteers about a number of new initiatives, including a new website, the heritage committee and the CFS Volunteer Charter.

The group also spent time discussing training, membership and recruitment and other management aspects over the two days.



**BACK LEFT TO RIGHT –** Mick Obst, Stefan Bilka, Digger Campbell, Matt Wasley, Ian Gordon, Max Blackburn, Geoff Smith, Nik Ludborz, Brett Atkins, Mopsy Daniel, Bluey Devine, Phil Tapscott, Pete Shalley.

**FRONT LEFT TO RIGHT –** Julie Mould, Graeme Austin, June Andrew, Rick Mould, Keri Moss, Louise Briggs, Andy Lawson, Ken Schutz.

building at high speed, scattering debris over a large area and trapping the driver within the cabin of his truck.

CFS volunteers using hydraulic rescue equipment and hand tools eventually freed the driver from the

wreck. Fortunately the driver had suffered minor injuries.

Crews then spent a number of hours clearing the debris from the roadway and dealing with a diesel leak from the prime mover.



✓ The area where the weighbridge once stood  
**Photo:** Nik Ludborz

>>> CFS crews extricated the driver from the cabin  
**Photo:** Nik Ludborz





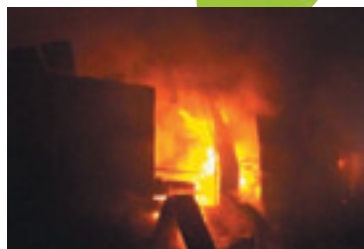
[REGIONAL ROUND-UP]

# [CARTER HOLT HARVEY FIRE]

**A**lmost one year after the last major fire at the Carter Holt Harvey (CHH) timber mill in Mount Gambier, arsonists struck again.

Volunteers from Compton CFS responded to assist Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) personnel battle a

blaze that was burning well in a number of large stacks of timber. There was little crews could do to quell the flames apart from pour thousands of litres of water onto the flames and use heavy machinery to pull apart the large stacks.



^ The timber was burning well when crews arrived.  
Photo: Mt Gambier Operations Brigade



^ Extinguishing hotspots continued for most of the day.  
Photo: Mt Gambier Operations Brigade

Working in conjunction with staff from CHH proved very effective, with the fire eventually being contained to the one shed where it began.

Crews were on scene for a number of hours extinguishing hot spots in the timber and assisting Fire Cause

Investigators from Adelaide.

The Moorak and Wandillo brigades were also busy responding to a number of fire alarms and rubbish fires in Mount Gambier, where they had moved to under a 'change of quarters' arrangement.

## [MOUNT GAMBIER HOUSE FIRES]

**T**wo house fires within days of each other kept CFS volunteers in the South East busy.

The first incident was reported just before 1.30pm on 12 May when a fire was reported on Bishop Road at Mount Gambier

About 25 SA CFS firefighters from Mil Lel, Wandilo, Compton and Yahl CFS assisted by members of the Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) attended the incident.

On arrival crews found smoke issuing from the stone-built property and quickly got to work to contain the fire to a storage room.

Around \$20,000 damage was sustained to the house, however a number of rooms were saved by the actions of firefighters.

On inspection, crews found that a hole in the chimney allowed the flames to move into the storage room where a mattress ignited, causing the subsequent fire.

Four days later volunteers were again called to a house fire, this time at Moorak to the south of Mount Gambier

Moorak CFS crews responding to the incident on Wynham road could see smoke more than a kilometre away. When they arrived they found a fire burning in a number of rooms of the house.

Additional resources were called in from the Yahl, Compton, Wandilo and Mil Lel brigades as firefighters wearing breathing apparatus entered the building and began to extinguish the blaze.

Five rooms were saved from the flames, receiving only smoke and

water damage, however the blaze caused around \$130,000 damage to the remainder of the home.

Fire Cause Investigators discovered that the fire started after combustible material had been left inside a fireplace from the previous night.



^ B.A. crews work on the roof of the Bishops road house  
Photo: Sarah Yelland



^ Crews discuss tactics at Moorak  
Photo: Mt Gambier Operations Brigade



^ Firefighters at work at the Moorak house fire  
Photo: Mt Gambier Operations Brigade

## [NARACORTE 4X4 EVENT]

By: Bill Corcoran, Naracoorte CFS

**T**he Naracoorte Apex club organised a 4X4 event as a fundraiser and as part of the planning they included the CFS to ensure public and competitor safety. Darren Murray, Captain Naracoorte CFS, developed a plan to cover the event, which included having on-site fire and rescue capability.

While most people relaxed over the weekend in March, crews from local CFS brigades were involved in providing fire and rescue cover at the 4x4 expo held just south of Naracoorte.

Over the two days the fire crew attended only one incident, being a small grass fire on a hot and windy day.

This day was a total fire ban day and the quick action from crews kept

the fire size below 10 square metres.

Andrew Shepard and Jerome Moore, local CFS members from Kybolite CFS, had entered a 4x4 in the event and the CFS volunteers at the event were full of support for the two in their zippy little blue 4WD.

The weekend was such a success that it may be come an annual competition.

Thanks must go to the staff at Brukung for providing a set of Road Crash Rescue gear to be placed on the Regional spare 24 for the weekend.

This allowed the brigade to provide cover at the event and maintain its coverage in Naracoorte.



Fire fighters assess the risks with rescue operations in the mud hole  
Photo: Bill Corcoran



CFS members compete  
Photo: Bill Corcoran

# [CO2 TANKER ROLLOVER]

By: Phil McDonough



Damage to the tanker was substantial.  
Photo: John Probert

**A**n early morning response to a truck rollover kept CFS crews busy on the Riddoch Highway on 6 May.

The truck carrying a load of carbon dioxide (CO2) was travelling in thick fog on the highway just North of Mount Gambier near Wandillo when the driver failed to negotiate a corner.

CFS crews from three brigades attended the incident and provided assistance to the driver, who was uninjured.

The original plan was to transfer the CO2 from the damaged tanker into another vessel but unfortunately the only other vehicle in SA able to carry the load was unavailable.

Two cranes were called to the scene to assist in the removal of the damaged tanker. However before the tanker could be moved, the 33 000 volt power lines above the incident had to be isolated to remove any hazard of electrocution.

CFS crews remained on scene for around eight hours, assisting with the recovery of the tanker and dealing with a diesel spill from the prime mover.

## [NEW APPLIANCE FOR ARGYLE CFS]

**A**rgyle CFS took delivery of their new 3 4 appliance in late April.

The new appliance features a 500-gallon per minute pump, large stowage area for equipment, on-board firefighting capabilities and a crew protection sprinkler system.

The brigade said 'goodbye' to their old 3 4 appliance and it was sent on its way to be refurbished, before being provided to another CFS brigade.

The Argyle brigade is a relatively new addition to the Wattle Range group, only being formed in the mid-1980's following the amalgamation of the Emerald and Hatherleigh brigades. The brigade currently has an active group of 21 members who respond to between 20 and 30 incidents each year.

>> Wattle Range Group Officer Mike Kemp hands over the keys to Brigade Captain Tony Manhood.  
Photo: The South Eastern Times





## [NARACOORTE CAVING ACCIDENT]

By: Darren Murray, Captain Naracoorte CFS

A recent CFS / CFA cadet exercise at Naracoorte ended in the real life rescue of one of the Cadet Leaders from a cave.

Cadets from the Naracoorte CFS and Horsham CFA brigades held an adventure caving exercise in the Naracoorte caves on Sunday 9 April.

The exercise was an opportunity for cadets from both services to build friendships and have some fun exploring the caves.

The cadets were split into two groups as they headed off to investigate the heritage-listed caves.

As one of the groups was nearing the end of the tour a CFA Cadet Leader slipped on some loose rocks, injuring his ankle.

The group quickly realized that the injured leader would need some assistance to leave the caves.

The Naracoorte Captain and Senior One (both rope rescue qualified) were at the exercise and entered the cave to assess the patient.

It was confirmed that there was no way the person could walk out of the cave and the Naracoorte CFS brigade responded with its rope rescue equipment.

SA Ambulance, Department for Environment & Heritage personnel and SA Police also responded to the

scene to assist with the rescue, and all of the cadets were taken back to the Naracoorte CFS station.

The layout of the cave system meant that rescuers had a large opening above the patient where they could lower a stokes litter and lift the patient out, however there was no suitable location to set up the larkin frame needed for the lifting operation, so a crane was called in to assist.

With an SA Ambulance paramedic treating the patient, CFS volunteers went to work rigging the stokes litter and getting it to the crews below.

After nearly an hour in the cave the patient was loaded into the stretcher and lifted from the area.

The patient was then taken to the Naracoorte Hospital where he was treated for a badly dislocated ankle and discharged later that night.

Regular rope rescue training by the brigade and a good working relationship with the SA Ambulance crew ensured that this rescue went smoothly and effectively.

Naracoorte CFS is currently organising a multi-agency rope rescue exercise for later in the year to further enhance their skills and prepare for another incident like this.

## [KALANGADOO GETS NEW 3 4]

By: Bill Corcoran, Naracoorte CFS

Volunteers from Kalangadoo CFS received their new 3 4 appliance on Wednesday 28 June.

The refurbished 3 4 replaced their existing 3 4 which had been in service with the brigade for close to 20 years.

The old 3 4 had served the town well over the years and despite looking a little weary, held a place in the hearts of many brigade members, with a few shedding a tear as the old appliance was driven away.

The volunteers and the small township of Kalangadoo will now have a more modern and advanced

appliance, with features including electric rewinds and an auto primer on the pump and some much-needed additional locker space.



^ New appliance outside of the station.



## [CLIFF RESCUE AT ROBE]

On Friday the 23 June Robe CFS responded to a call to rescue a tourist who had fallen down a cliff at the Obelisk at Robe.

A gentleman in his 50s had been taking photos at night and lost his balance, falling backwards 10 metres onto a rock ledge just above sea level.

The Robe brigade responded, with Kingston SES as support. After notifying the Duty Officer Naracoorte CFS, Wattle Range SES and Mt. Gambier SES also responded to support the rescue.

The Robe Captain abseiled down to stabilise the casualty whilst the rescue frame was erected.

Once all responding crews arrived, a short briefing was held and the incident sectorised.

One sector provided access to the casualty for the Ambulance Officer, whilst another sector lowered the stretcher.

Once stabilised, the casualty and crews were hauled to the top and the casualty transported to hospital.

The rescue was a great example of inter-service integration, with all services working together for the good of the community. SAPOL, SAAS, CFS and SES were all on site and the co-operation at all levels was outstanding in what could have been a very dangerous situation.

After the operation was complete, a debrief was held at the Robe Station at which all crews expressed how well the services co-operated and the smooth running of the operation.

It is believed that one of the reasons it went well was that several of the members of both services have undertaken common training and worked together previously.

The gentleman sustained a fractured ankle with other minor injuries, as well as being exposed to very cold conditions for a period of time.



**[REGIONAL ROUND-UP]**

# AN EXERCISE IN SAVING LIVES

**By: Tristan Baldock, Port Lincoln CFS**

**V**olunteers from the SA Country Fire Service (CFS) and SA Ambulance Service (SAAS) joined together on Tuesday 2 May (at Port Neill) and Wednesday 3 May (at Coffin Bay) for combined mock motor vehicle accident (MVA) exercises.

With the aim of further developing inter-agency cooperation and teamwork, the exercise also provided the opportunity for those involved to practice the technique of 'inline extrication' of victims from the vehicles.

The exercises replicated typical country MVAs, a single vehicle roll over. In this situation, the car contained one adult and two children who sustained serious injuries ranging from neck and spinal injuries to fractured legs and arms.

The exercise covered all areas of MVA response, ensuring scene safety and control of the scene, applying first aid and medical treatment, as well as arranging for additional resources such as ambulances, CFS

crews, retrieval teams and paramedic back up.

The inline extrication practise, gave volunteers the opportunity to use this minimalist approach where patients are removed by popping out the rear window of the vehicle and tenting the roof, reclining the front seats and pulling the patients out through the back window.

This technique requires significant communication and teamwork between CFS and SAAS, with benefits including less impact on the victim and less cutting of the vehicle.

The teams worked well to ensure good patient care, scene management, swift extrication and teamwork between agencies.

Thank you to Port Lincoln Auto Wreckers for donating the vehicles and to our patients for volunteering their time for both exercises.

Thanks also to Port Neill and Coffin Bay CFS, and volunteer ambulance teams from Port Neill, Cummins, Coffin Bay and Tumby Bay.

## ARNO BAY CFS STATION GETS A FACELIFT

**By: Yvonne Britza,  
Cadet Coordinator and Training Officer Arno Bay CFS**

**I**n early 2006, Arno Bay CFS commenced work to build a partition within the station to allow for the creation of a designated meeting room and office area.

In undertaking the building work, a bolster was included on the floor of the station to ensure that no one accidentally reverses the truck into the new partition.

The brigade purchased an enviro tank septic system in 2005, and ordered a two cubicle toilet block which arrived a few weeks ago.

An undercover walkway has also

been built between the station and the toilet block, providing an area to house a sink for cleaning breathing apparatus and to house proposed storage lockers for our personal protective equipment (PPE).

All of the work has been undertaken by the brigade members, including ordering of materials and the installation of a new rainwater tank.

As a brigade we are very proud of what we have achieved and look forward to completing our renovations in full.



## CLEVE AREA SCHOOL VISIT CFS

**H**ow much water do you have? How many people are on the truck? Do you get scared?

These are just some of the questions posed by a reception class on a field trip to Cleve CFS on 16 May.

The group from Cleve Area School were given the opportunity to go for a ride on their local fire truck, and

squirt some water around - which the girls in the group enjoyed far more than the boys.

The class was given a tour of the station, before sitting down and asking some questions of their local firefighters, Trevor Rodda, Cleve Captain and Bryan Trigg, Cleve Group Officer.



^ Cleve Area School Reception class.  
Photo: Mel Masters

<< Trevor and his grandson.  
Photo: Mel Masters



## [BURNING CARS AND ROLLOVERS ALL IN A NIGHT'S TRAINING]

By: Tristan Baldock, Port Lincoln CFS

Volunteers from Port Lincoln CFS participated in Operation 'Night Hawk' on Friday 12 May 2006 to provide volunteers with a variety of mock exercises that they would realistically come across in their duties with the SA Country Fire Service. (CFS)

The evening started with a 'smoke sighting' at the Cathedral Rocks Wind Farm, where crews responded in the Port Lincoln 2 4 and 14. They quickly donned breathing apparatus, and with charged lines they proceeded to the structure quickly and efficiently before giving the all clear.

From here the volunteers responded to a 'fuel leak' and subsequent 'fuel fire'. When the volunteers arrived they discovered a fuel tanker had ruptured. Volunteers then worked to contain the fuel and while doing so, the fuel spill ignited, and volunteers extinguished the blaze.

The volunteers were then responded to a 'motor vehicle accident'. When they arrived, the a panel van was engulfed in flames, with no persons located at the scene.

Firefighters wearing breathing apparatus extinguished the blaze quickly, identifying that the fire was deliberately lit while doing so.

Despite volunteers beginning to tire, they responded to a scrub fire at 'The Pines' where crews contained and quickly extinguished the fire and participated in their 'burn over drill'.

The final mock incident for the evening involved volunteers responding to a second motor vehicle accident.

Upon arrival firefighters were confronted with a single 4WD which had left the road in scrub land, with one seriously injured and a second victim missing.

The scene was quickly secured, with fire protection and first aid administered quickly, while remaining crew conducted a search and located the second victim, before returning them to the ambulance for medical treatment.

Derek Carkle, exercise organiser, said this the exercise is was an important part of ensuring CFS volunteers are adequately trained in all these areas.

"CFS is now required to attend an ever increasing range of incidents and it is important that the volunteers have trained in these specific scenarios," Derek he said.

"Operation Night Hawk was designed to present crews with a range of realistic incidents they face, while placing them under considerable physical and mental stress," he said.

"On occasions, that's the reality of being involved in an emergency service.

"CFS volunteers respond to incidents at any hour of the day and often for prolonged periods with little rest between incidents.

"It is important that we are able to train and assess how people react to situations when under extreme conditions such as near exhaustion.

"Port Lincoln CFS intends to continue this training format with further exercises to take place in the future," Derek said.



## [TWO FIRES IN TWO DAYS AT SMOKY BAY]

The Smoky Bay CFS brigade near Ceduna on the Eyre Peninsula had a busy start to winter, with two large fires in two days.

An electrical fault is thought to have started a fire that caused more than \$200,000 damage to the Smoky Bay General Store.

The fire was reported around 7am on Sunday 4 June after a resident saw smoke rising from the rear of the William Street building.

CFS volunteers from Smoky Bay and Ceduna CFS brigades spent a couple of hours at the scene to fully

extinguish the blaze and ensure there was no further threat to the store, which remained open for essential local services.

The shop contained a range of health and beauty products, stationary, souvenirs and groceries, most of which had been significantly damaged by heat and smoke.

Just after 2pm on the following day, volunteers from the Smoky Bay CFS responded to a fire at the local wrecking yard off the Smoky Bay Road.

The fire started after sparks from a contractor, who was earlier cutting

up scrap metal from a pile of about 50 vehicle wrecks, spread to an area of grass underneath the wrecks.

The fire quickly spread to about five of the vehicles, however fire crews were able to bring the fire under control within 15 minutes.

The incident would no doubt have raised a few eyebrows from the air!

>> **Damage to the Smoky Bay General Store.**

>> **CFS crews contain multiple vehicle fires at the Smoky Bay Wrecking Yard.**



## [NATIONAL MEDAL RECIPIENT DEDICATED]

June Young received her National Medal as a 50th birthday present from the Cowell Brigade.

The brigade came together for the celebrations in March this year and were entertained by stories of her career highlights from her husband and Brigade Captain.

June has had an interesting career with the CFS, starting as an auxiliary member in 1988 before deciding she wanted to do more for the

community and completed her Level 1. Since then, June has completed many courses including RCR, BA, AIIMS/ICS.

June has met the challenges of different roles within the brigade and has been involved in many campaigns including Tulka, Middle Camp and even conducting family support during NSW deployments.

June has been described as being very determined when she makes her

mind up to do something and the brigade members thought that nothing would stop her. This was until she decided that she was going to walk up a hill during a recent fire at Middle Camp fire. Well, the hill won.

June is also heavily involved with cadets and outside CFS, swimming club activities and table tennis and she also has a job, too.

A very worthy recipient.



June receiving 15 year award

# [ OFF ROAD DRIVING ]

By: Phil McDonough, Regional Prevention Officer

**T**he CFS has undertaken a significant amount of work to develop a specific off-road driving course.

Four pilot courses were held earlier in the year at the Motor Sport Park at Harrogate and were used to evaluate and trial the training package.

These pilot courses received very good feedback and a budget proposal has been developed. If successful, the aim is to implement the course, focusing on ensuring one driver from each brigade across the state is trained in safe off-road driving within two years.

The training course concentrates on safe driving techniques, not teaching people from scratch and assumes that the participant has had some

degree of off-road driving experience.

An important component of the course is the pre-course assignment.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been established between Motorcycling SA and CFS to use their property, 'Motor Sport Park' at Harrogate, for the next four years.

This facility has a wide range of terrains and once a sand trap has been built in the park, it will accurately replicate the topography that CFS drivers experience across the state.

The sand trap was included to the training course from feedback received during the trial phase. The course will run for half a day and if funding is approved, it should be available later in the year.

✓ Negotiating the terrain at Motor Sport Park.

# [ COMPARTMENT TRAINING SPREADING ACROSS AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND ]

By: Phil McDonough, Regional Prevention Officer

**F**or the second time in six months, the State Training Centre was host to personnel from the New South Wales Rural Fire Service (NSWRFS) in mid-May.

However, rather than the personnel coming over to assist with fighting bushfires, they came to learn from the CFS's expertise in Compartment Fire Behaviour (CFB).

Around 12 staff from the NSWRFS training department participated in a mid-week CFB course aimed at developing them as instructors so that they can establish CFB courses for their volunteers, providing them with a better understanding on fire behaviour within structures.

The CFS's reputation in CFB has also spread across the Tasman, with two CFS and two MFS Level 2 instructors travelling to Rotorua in New Zealand to train 12 of the New Zealand Fire Service's full time professional development staff in this specialised field. A second trip is planned in the not-too-distant future to conduct some additional training in Auckland.

It is apparent that NSW RFS and New Zealand Fire Service recognise the high standard of facilities and instruction that the CFS can provide, with the CFS State Training Centre recognised as one of the best training facilities in the southern hemisphere.

# [ CFS RECEIVES A 'MILITARY CALL UP' ]

**T**he Country Fire Service received a 'military call up' on 24-25 June, when the ninth brigade of the Royal Australian Army asked the CFS to set up an education and interactive stand at one of their training days.

With a frosty 4am start, David Pearce representing the CFS Training Department delivered a number of presentations focusing on the CFS as an organisation and our role and function, how we work with hazardous material and chemical, biological and radiological incidents and delivered selected modules from Basic Firefighter One (BFF1).

The CFS stand was one of a number of event-like activities at their round robin training day, with more than 120 personnel coming through the stand.

The Army carry extensive stocks of rakehoes and knapsacks which will be a valuable resource in the event of a major incident where the military may be called to assist.





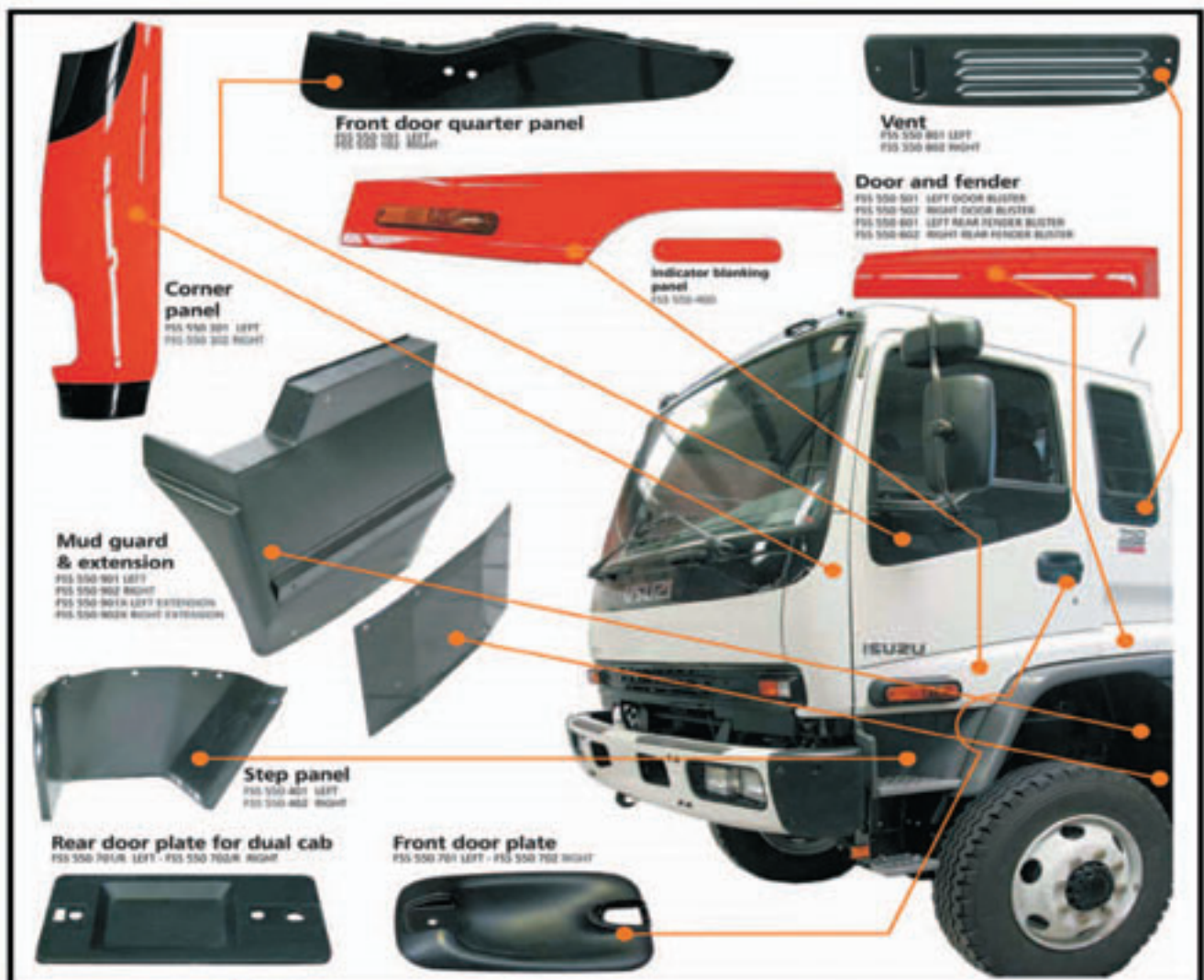
# Aluminium Replacement Safety Panels For Isuzu & Mitsubishi Canter Trucks

## Why install aluminium replacement safety panels ?

Plastic panels are commonplace on most modern day commercial vehicles, however under adverse conditions they have proved to be inadequate in situations of extreme heat. In these situations (eg attending bush fires), vehicle losses have occurred because the original plastic door handle plates have become distorted, i.e. warped to such an extent that opening the doors to gain entry to the vehicle became impossible. Other parts like door blisters and vents have become unusable and non serviceable after only a short time in use necessitating expensive replacement of the parts which only results in them suffering the same fate as their predecessors.

Newlans Coach builders have a solution to this problem in the form of exact fitting reproductions of the original plastic parts in lightweight aluminium. Fitting them to a vehicle is a one time investment which will reduce the risk of injury and vehicle losses due to users not being able to access the vehicle due to heat damaged door panels etc. Newlans panels are more resistant to heat and once correctly fitted have to our knowledge never required replacement. Also being aluminium they will not rust. Even in an accident situation where an Aluminium Panel is damaged from impact it can be repaired where the original plastic panel usually can not.

Our panels are provided already painted in fleet colours such as, Signal Red, Coach White, and N.S.W. Rural Fire Service Orange. Newlans Replacement Aluminium Safety Panels are already in use by fire attending crews and other field service groups Australia wide.



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# NEW APPLIANCES FOR 2006-2007 ]

By: Sandy Paterson, Acting Manager Infrastructure and Logistics

For some time the SA Country Fire Service (CFS) has, wherever possible, aimed to keep the age of appliances in service at a maximum of 20 years. Every attempt is made to replace appliances as they approach or reach this age.

Part of developing new appliances involves a focus on continuous improvement.

Infrastructure and Logistics regularly receives feedback from brigades that have received new appliances and in recent years, this has been used to help identify where improvements can be made in order to deliver an appliance that is easier to use, safer, more efficient and effective than the last model.

With this in mind, in the 2006 – 2007 financial year, the CFS will take delivery of 25 of the 3 4 type appliances, of which one will be fitted with an automatic transmission, 10 of the 3 4 P type appliances, Two 1 4 type appliances and two Urban Pumpers.

The purchase of new appliances is

conducted through a 'closed tender' process where pre-qualified suppliers are invited to tender.

This process covers three main areas, with the first step being a closed tender call for the supply of new cab chassis, then a closed tender call for the supply of new pumps and finally after the chassis' and pumps have been selected, tenders are then called for the construction of the appliance bodies.

Although not dissimilar to current models, these new 3 4s will be based on Hino 8Z cab chassis and fitted with Waterous pumps coupled to Deutz motors.

The other significant change with these new appliances will be the fitting of roller shutters on the lockers, instead of swing doors. These shutters can be operated by a hand-operated monitor which is fitted to the front of the work deck. These monitors can be easily moved from one side of the appliance to the other.

The 3 4P's will again be based on the Isuzu FTS750 cab chassis and,



The 2005 model 3 4.



The 2004 model 1 4.

like the 3 4's, will also be fitted with Waterous pumps coupled to Deutz motors. Like the 3 4's, the new 3 4 P will also have a hand-operated monitor, otherwise they will be very similar to last year's model.

In both the 34 and 34P, the crew protection structure (crew haven) will be narrowed to two metres to accommodate space for the monitors.

The 1 4's will be based on Mitsubishi Canteers, with one being fitted with a GAAM pump coupled to a Kubota diesel motor and the other will be used to trial a small Compressed Air Foam System pump. Details of this the pump system are still being negotiated. In all they will be very similar to the models built in 2004.

The Pumpers will be based on the New South Wales Fire Brigade Type 2 Pumper design, which will bring the total number of these vehicles CFS has in service to seven, all purchased since 2003.

If your brigade has received a new appliance in recent years and have not provided any feedback, please do so.

If you already have provided comments, this does not mean that additional comments and suggestions for further improvements cannot be made.

Feedback sheets are available from CFS Infrastructure and Logistics, phone 08 8463 4200.

Please keep in mind that it is your experiences that are used to make a better product in future.

## NEW APPLIANCE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS ]

### PUMPS

#### PUMPS

##### WATEROUS CLVT

Single stage impellor capable of -

- 1900 l/min @ 1 000 kPa
- 500 l/min @ 2 000 kPa

##### GAAM Mk 450

2 stage impellers with the 2nd stage being high pressure, capable of -

- 1900 l/min @ 1 000 kPa
- 500 l/min @ 2 000 kPa

##### GAAM BB4

- Multi stage impellers capable of -
- 230 l/min @ 1 600kPa

#### MOTORS

##### DEUTZ BF4L2011

- Diesel fuelled
- 4 cylinder inline
- Turbo charged
- Air cooled
- 55 kW power

##### KUBOTA D722

- Diesel fuelled
- 3 cylinder inline
- Liquid cooled
- Naturally aspirated
- 12 kW power

**CAB CHASSIS** - All of the new appliances will be provided with air-conditioned crew cabs.



##### HINO RANGER PRO 8Z

- GVM** 13 tonne
- Drive** 4X4
- Engine** 158 kW @ 2500 rpm - 608 Nm @ 1500 rpm
- Transmission** 6 speed manual - Synchro in 2nd – 6th
- Transfer Case** High Range – 1:1 Low Range – 2.224:1
- Brakes** Air over Hydraulic with spring on rear wheels for Park Brake



##### ISUZU FTS750

- GVM** 13.7 tonne
- Drive** 4X4: Constant All Wheel drive
- Engine** 164 kW @ 2400 rpm - 668 Nm @ 1500 rpm
- Transmission** 6 speed manual - Synchro in 2nd – 6th
- Transfer Case** High Range – 1:1 - Low Range – 2.091:1
- Brakes** Air over Hydraulic with spring on rear wheels for Park Brake



Tray not included

##### MITSUBISHI CANTER FE649

- GVM** 6 tonne
- Drive** 4X4
- Engine** 103 kW @ 2900 rpm 365 Nm @ 1600 rpm
- Transmission** 5 speed manual Synchro in 2nd – 5th
- Transfer Case** High Range – 1.090:1 Low Range – 1.987:1
- Brakes** Vacuum over Hydraulic



2005 model 3 4 P



2005 model Pumper



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# EQUIPMENT NEWS



## [ CFS DEVELOPS COST EFFECTIVE BULK WATER CARRIERS ]

The SA Country Fire service (CFS) has recently completed a project to convert old appliances into bulk water carriers (BWC).

This involved the removal of old appliance bodies from three chassis'.

New trays were manufactured and a 7,000- litre fibreglass water tank was fitted to each chassis. These tankers are provided with minimum stowage equipment and a volume pump.

CFS may be in the position to develop several more of this design of BWC when suitable vehicles become available.

We have received a number of enquiries from volunteers about establishing BWC's on four wheel drive chassis's. Unfortunately the vehicles currently available to CFS are not suitable for this purpose as they are unable to carry sufficient load to be viable as a BWC.

By: Sandy Paterson, Manager Vehicles and Equipment

### BELOW IS THE BASIC DATA FOR THESE BULK WATER CARRIERS.

Chassis	4X2 drive with a GVM of greater than 13 000 kgs.
Tank	7 000 litre fibreglass water cartage tank
Pump	Waterous PB18-3030 capable of 1500 l/min.
Stowage	2 filler hoses 2 lengths 64mm delivery hose 1 length of 25mm lay flat hose and branch Stand Pipe and

Turn Key  
3 Safety Vests  
1 short line (rope)  
2 X 3 metre lengths of 100mm hard suction hose, strainer and basket.  
First Aid kit  
Tool kit  
Sledge hammer  
Adaptors, 25mm WJAX to 64mm.  
Barrier tape  
Coupling keys for 64mm round thread and 100mm Storz  
Fuel can  
Personal Protection blanket  
Road cones  
Torches



Side view of a 7 000 litre bulk water carrier.



Rear of BWC, showing pump and plumbing.

## [ 3M WITHDRAWS FIREFIGHTING FOAM ]

3M Australia has advised that they will be withdrawing from the firefighting foam market in Australia.

They are currently investigating future business options to continue the supply of 3M Fighting Foam products under license.

In the interim, RF Series and BFFF foams will still be available from 3M Australia and 3M Australia will honour all existing contractual obligations.

Foam products are expected to be available until at least the end of 2007.



## [ STATE VOLUNTEER TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ] By: Sandy Paterson, Manager Vehicles and Equipment

More than 25 years ago, the CFS established the State Volunteer Technical Committee (SVTC) to provide a conduit for volunteers to put forward their thoughts and suggestions on the design of vehicles and equipment used in the CFS.

The committee was originally known as the 'Board Technical Advisory Committee', then the 'Vehicle and Equipment Committee', before evolving to its current format.

In addition to staff from CFS Infrastructure and Logistics, the committee comprises of one volunteer from each region who represent the volunteers within that region.

If you have any feedback or comments that you would like raised at the SVTC meeting, please ensure you contact your regional representative or regional office.

CFS Infrastructure and Logistics welcomes the comments and feedback from volunteers.

Your feedback is important in helping the SVTC to design and develop vehicles and equipment for the future.

### CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE VOLUNTEER DELEGATES ARE LISTED BELOW:

**REGION 1** - Peter Bonython - Summertown Captain  
Ph Wk: 8208 8666 Ph Hm: 8390 3149  
Mob: 0407 926 734 Email: bonython@chariot.net.au

**REGION 2** - Fred Munzer - Northern Yorke Group Officer  
Ph Wk + Hm + Mob: 0418 859 373 - Fax: 8821 4477  
Email: fmunzer@bigpond.com

**REGION 3** - Raoul De Grancy - Chaffey Group Officer  
Ph Wk + Hm: 8583 5238 Mob: 0427 861 925  
Fax: 8583 6012 Email: degrancy@riverland.net.au

**REGION 4** - Andy Thomas - Burra Group Officer  
Mob. 0409934011

**REGION 5** - Brian Wiese - Tatiara Group Officer  
Ph Wk + Hm: 8753 4082 Mob: 0427 807 107  
Fax 8753 4208 Email: bwiese@lm.net.au

**REGION 6** - Rob Maddern (Chairman) Lower Eyre Peninsula Deputy Group Officer  
Ph Wk + Hm: 8687 6026 Mob: 0428 876 026  
Fax: 8687 6006 Email: madderns@epc.net.au



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VOLUNTEER - EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

## [ CFS TRIALS NEW 34P PROTOTYPE ]

By: Sandy Paterson, Manager Vehicles and Equipment

**C**FS has recently taken delivery of a new 3 4 P that is a significantly different from other 3 4 P's in the fleet.

### The pumping system

SEM Fire and Rescue in Ballarat and Bosch Rexroth Australia have developed a hydraulic drive pumping system for this appliance prototype.

The main pump can be activated at any time, as long as the chassis engine is operating.

A pressure- governing system controls the pump speed; and the operator may select a desired pump pressure with the hydraulics maintaining the selected pressure automatically.

The hydraulic system is controlled electronically and the entire control system has many parameters that it must work within.

The end result is a simple to operate pumping system with several enhancements and 'fail safes' beyond what can be provided by an engine- driven pump.

Other features of the system include, shut down of the pump in the event of a loss of water supply, pressure 'pulsing' in conjunction with the low water alarm, a significant reduction in noise at the operator area and a the ability to engage the pump whilst 'on the run'.



Pump cabin controls.



Pump rear control panel.



Pump crew deck control panel.

The appliance is also fitted with an auxiliary pump that can be operated from the crew deck as an added safety measure.

If the chassis engine fails, the crew can still be protected by using the small auxiliary pump.



Auxiliary pump.

### A remote control monitor

This prototype also features a remote controlled monitor on the front of the appliance, which will deliver up to 200 litres per minute of water, with a controllable spray pattern from a straight jet to a wide-angle fog

Controlled by a 'joy stick' in the appliance cabin, the monitor will work through a horizontal arc of 180 degrees and a vertical arc of 135 degrees.

CFS is very conscious of the difficulties that some brigades experience in raising a full crew, particularly during business hours. This monitor has been included in this appliance to allow us to assess its effectiveness should the appliance need to be operated with less crew than what is normally expected.



Detachable front mounted Monitor.



Monitor normal storage location.



Monitor 'near vertical'.



Monitor 'near horizontal'.



Monitor with a narrow fog pattern.



Monitor with narrow fog viewed from the front.



Joy Stick Monitor Control.



The prototype 3 4 P appliance.



# FORESTRY SA DONATES FIRE TANKER TO SOUTHERN FLEURIEU CFS GROUP

► TANKER HANDOVER SHOWS AGENCIES COOPERATION

The Southern Fleurieu CFS group is now the official owner of a RFW 6x6 Fire Tanker following ForestrySA's kind donation of the vehicle.

The tanker will continue to be based at the Yankalilla CFS station where it has been on loan to the Group and crewed by local volunteers for several years.

The tanker has been used at a number of incidents in the area,

including fires in the Second Valley Forest.

ForestrySA Regional Manager, Rick Underdown, officially handed the tanker over to the Southern Fleurieu Group Officer, Phil Irvine, at a gathering on the 28 March.

As part of the hand over, Rick highlighted the high level of cooperation between ForestrySA and CFS in the area over many years and stressed that ForestrySA is keen to

continue the very good working relationship with the Southern Fleurieu CFS Group and cooperative fire fighting operations in the Group area.

Phil Irvine Southern Fleurieu Group Officer thanked ForestrySA on behalf of the Group, highlighting the capability of the RFW Fire Tanker to carry 8, 500 litres of water and it's ability to refill four CFS '2 4 units' during fire fighting operations, without them leaving the fire line.

Phil also praised the high level of mutual support between ForestrySA and CFS and said he was looking forward to continuing cooperative arrangements for fire fighting.

Rick and Phil praised the local CFS volunteers and ForestrySA staff for developing the proposal to permanently transfer the tanker, and noted the support of the Chief Executives of both organisations who approved it.

## [ NEW COMBINATION STRUCTURAL RURAL HELMET RELEASED ]

By: Arthur Tindall, Manager Infrastructure and Logistics



F9B1 Rural



Shell placed on rural helmet F9S2 Structural

Pacific Helmets Australia (PHA) has released a new concept helmet that can be used for both rural and structural firefighting operations.

Called the 'F9 Firebreak Duo', it consists of two components, a significantly modified BR9 rural helmet certified to AS1801 Type 3 (Part F9B1) and a clip on outer shell (Part F9S2), that when combined with the F9B1 makes the helmet a AS4067 compliant and certified structural helmet.

This helmet has distinct benefits for those brigades who respond to both rural and structural incidents, as they will no longer have the need to carry

both styles of helmet or face headwear management issues associated with the use of existing structural helmets in rural applications.

Another advantage is that the outer shell of this new combination helmet need not be personal issue, as there are no hygiene issues associated with shared use. Consequently a set number can be stored on appliances for use when required.

Existing Pacific BR9 helmets, whilst looking similar in shell design, are significantly different from the F9B1 and cannot be used with the structural outer shell.

Firefighters who are not accredited in the use of Breathing Apparatus

should continue to use the existing BR9 helmet, as the cost of the new F9B1 is significantly greater, albeit that both are tested and certified to AS1801 Type 3.

CFS first pursued the concept of a dual use helmet with potential suppliers at least five years ago.

The positive outcome that has now been achieved is largely due to a willingness to innovate by PHA and the dedication shown by Keith Ward from that organisation in pursuing the concept in support of customer-identified requirements.

It is a concept that has applications in both urban and rural fire services and one that will continue to evolve.

## [ PERSONAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING ROLL-OUT ]

By: Sandy Paterson, Manager Vehicles and Equipment



In early 2006, the Country Fire Service (CFS) received funding to roll out the new PBI Gold structural firefighting garments and to provide wildland garments to replace older style clothing that is no longer fit for purpose.

By the end of July 2006, more than 1,400 sets of structural garments and 494 sets of wildland garments had been received and distributed to brigades, with some additional garments still to be delivered.

Also being delivered are 1,500 flash hoods to complement the structural garments.

Delivery of these items will result in every currently competent CABA wearer being issued with the latest quality protective clothing to improve fire fighter safety.

### Standards for PPE

This table provides a quick guide to assist in determining what may be used in various circumstances. All PPE used in CFS must be certified as compliant with the appropriate standard.

STANDARD	ITEM	MAY BE USED IN
AS1801 Type 3	Wildland Helmet	All areas except internal structural firefighting
AS2161.6 Type 1	Wildland Glove	Wildland firefighting
AS2161.6 Type 2 or 3	Structural Glove	All areas
AS4067	Structural Helmet	All areas
AS4821 Type 1	Wildland Boot	Wildland firefighting (Includes Taipan elastic sided boot)
AS4821 Type 2	Structural Boot	All areas
AS4824	Wildland Garment	All areas except internal structural firefighting
EN467	Structural Garment	All areas except Wildland firefighting (Lion PBI Gold)



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VOLUNTEER - EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

## NEW TRAILER REGULATIONS

By: Sandy Paterson, Manager Vehicles and Equipment



All trailers will need to comply with these regulations.

The Department for Transport Energy and Infrastructure (DTEI) has introduced new regulations, which relate to how trailers are to be loaded and towed by a vehicle.

It is essential that all CFS brigades and groups who have reason to tow a trailer are familiar with these regulations, which primarily affect 'light vehicles', or those with a Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM) of no more than 6,000 kilograms.

These rules need to be used in conjunction with Chief Officers Standing Order (COSO) 7.

Key points of the new regulations include:

- If the Gross Trailer Mass (GTM) (this includes the weight of the trailer with everything in it) is greater than 750 kgs, it MUST have brakes.
- A trailer with a GTM between 750 kilograms and 2,000 kilograms may use 'override brakes'.
- A trailer with a GTM more than 2,000 kilograms must have a system that applies the brakes should the trailer become disconnected from the towing vehicle.
- The mass of the trailer must not exceed the rated capacity of the tow bar or tow coupling.
- The mass of the trailer must not exceed the towing capacity of the vehicle used to tow the trailer.

- This limit will be specified by the vehicle manufacturer and may be in terms of 'towing capacity' or 'Gross Combination Mass'. These limits may also be for a 'trailer with brakes' and a 'trailer without brakes'.

The 'mass limit' for a trailer will be the least of tow bar capacity, tow coupling capacity or the maximum trailer mass as specified in the Regulations.

For example;

- If a manufacturer states that a vehicle can tow a trailer with a mass of 1,000 kilograms without brakes, you must still keep any trailer without brakes to no greater than 750 kilograms.
- If a manufacturer specifies a towing capacity of 500 kilograms then this will be the maximum allowable mass to be towed by that vehicle.
- If the tow bar has a rated capacity of only 700 kilograms then, even if it has brakes fitted, the trailer mass must not exceed 700 kilograms.

A copy of the *Light Vehicle Towing and Trailer Regulations (GVM 4.5 tonnes or less)* can be obtained from the DTEI website below. [http://www.transport.sa.gov.au/pdfs/personal\\_transport/light\\_vehicles\\_pdfs/lightvehicle\\_towing.pdf](http://www.transport.sa.gov.au/pdfs/personal_transport/light_vehicles_pdfs/lightvehicle_towing.pdf)

## TOWING RULES AND A SAFETY CHECKLIST

As released by the Department for Energy and Infrastructure

The Department for Transport Energy and Infrastructure (DTEI) has established some rules and a safety checklist for towing.

These rules need to be used in conjunction with Chief Officers Standing Order (COSO) 7.

### TOWING RULES

1. A trailer must be securely coupled to the vehicle towing it and must have a safety connection, such as a chain or cable, that will keep the trailer connected to the towing vehicle in the event of an accidental disconnection of the tow coupling. If the trailer is fitted with a breakaway braking system, then a safety chain or cable is not required.
2. A trailer must not be towed with a person in or on the trailer, if the load is placed in a way that causes the vehicle to be unstable.
3. The load on a trailer must be safely secured or restrained before moving onto a road.
4. If an item falls from the trailer onto the road, it is the driver's responsibility to remove it from the road. Penalties apply if a load is not secured properly.
5. A trailer must not be towed unless it meets all the mass, lighting, and braking requirements.

**Use the following checklist to ensure that you meet the safety requirements for towing a trailer:**

1. Ensure that all trailer lights (brake, tail and indicator) are all working. You may need someone to help you with this.
2. Ensure that the trailer is securely coupled to the towing vehicle.
3. Ensure that the trailer's safety connection is secured properly to the towing vehicle.
4. Ensure that the trailer load is correctly balanced so that there is some mass bearing through the tow coupling.
5. Ensure that the load is safely secured to the trailer and does not present any danger to other people or property if it projects past the body (even if it meets all the dimension and safety requirements).
6. Ensure that the loaded trailer meets the braking requirements.
7. Ensure that the vehicle combination and load does not exceed the length and projection limits.
8. Ensure that the mass of the trailer and load does not exceed the towing capacity of the vehicle.
9. Ensure that the loaded mass of the trailer does not exceed the tyre capacity and that the tyres are inflated to recommended pressures.





## [ GRN PAGING PROTOCOLS ]

By: Gary Bau, CFS Communications Coordinator

The SA Government Radio Network (SAGRN) is owned and operated by the State Government and is a service used to communicate messages for the Emergency Service Organisations of SA.

The SAGRN paging network also provides an opportunity for CFS staff and volunteers to send messages.

However, it is essential that all CFS personnel follow the guidelines that have been established to assist with sending and identifying pager messages. Additionally, it is recommended that all CFS users of the network ensure they are familiar with the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) 10.1, 10.2 and 10.3. Following these guidelines protects the integrity of this

emergency services paging network.

The SAGRN is regulated by the Federal Communications Act. Failure to adhere to the established guidelines or the inappropriate use of the paging network will result in the user being reported to the Australian Federal Police for breaching the Act.

Please ensure you consider the following as they will assist to maintain the integrity of the GRN paging service:..

- Paging messages can only be initiated by an approved means (SOP 10.1).
- All messages should be in upper case (SOP 10.2).
- When composing pager messages the sender of the message should

be placed at the start of the message eg. SHQ: MESSAGE.

- It's a good idea to tag the message with the writers name and/or contact details.
- The only manner which pager messages can be sent on the SAGRN is from the State Operations Call Centre (SOCC), South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (SAMFS) Comcen, Fire Station Interface Units, Alpha off air decoders, CFS fixed alarm services, registered Airsource software with a CFS password and the Link Operator Assisted Service.
- Some paging software allows the user to re- send pager messages automatically; this is **against the CFS paging model and is not permitted.**
- Some email services allow sending pager messages; again, this is **against the CFS paging model and not permitted.**
- Link has web site access to SAGRN paging, however the service provider does not guarantee this service and delivery times.
- Users can monitor pager messages but cannot rebroadcast or use the information contained in any message. Such actions have previously resulted in users being reported to the Australian Federal Police. Users pagers can and will be taken off the network if an offence takes place.

## [ SMOKE AND YOUR RADIO ]

By: Gary Bau, CFS Communications Coordinator

Following reports from CFS volunteers that on some occasion's fireground radio communications have experienced reduced coverage or blacked out altogether during incidents, an investigation has been undertaken to ascertain if these were caused by the radios (equipment) or some other factors.

In one instance we found that people using portable VHF radios very close to 'rolling smoke' in a paddock where hay stubble (hay) had caught fire, that transmissions had 'blacked out', even though the firefighters could see each other, only 100 to 200 metres apart.

When tests were carried out tests in the same paddock a few days later, we found the transmissions worked perfectly.

However, the release of a research paper by Heron and Mphale from the School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences at James Cook University has provided some interesting information on this issue.

The research paper, entitled "*Radio wave attenuation in bushfires, tropical cyclones and other severe atmospheric conditions*", discusses the effect that potassium has on radio communications.

The research paper provided evidence that the potassium content of fuel from low (eucalypt litter) to high (live, dry grass) showed that radio communications vary from a small degradation (few db) to radio black-out conditions and can effect all frequencies.

The paper probably scientifically supports what many CFS firefighters have experienced over the years, that fireground smoke affects radio transmissions, however the paper shows the higher the potassium content on of burning material plays a significant role in the amount of radio interference experienced.

All frequencies can experience problems - HF, VHF and UHF. Users should be aware that if there is smoke between two radios, there is likely to be interference.

For CFS firefighters it can mean that different types of burning material and the smoke generated can cause loss of radio transmissions and it can affect all frequencies. If possible, when the firefighter when who is transmitting on radios discovers the quality of the transmissions is degraded, they should move away from the smoke source.

It means that radio transmissions can and do vary depending on a whole range of issues and that firefighters cannot rely on radio communications 100 per cent% of the time and should take measures to identify why transmissions are poor and try to move to a better transmission location.

The complete article is available from the CFS website [www.cfs.org.au](http://www.cfs.org.au)





# CADETS TOMORROW'S FUTURE LEADERS



<< Look out for the soon-to-be-released cadet handbook.

**By: Julie Francis, former Youth Programs Officer, now Region 1 Volunteer Support Officer**

I often hear current firefighters and leaders of the SA Country Fire Service (CFS) reflect on the past and comment with pride on the fact that they began their careers in the CFS as a cadet many years ago.

Today we can still say that the desire by young people to participate is keen. In 2006 there are 1,000 cadets, supported by 370 Cadet Leaders.

The cadet program provides young people with an opportunity to acquire valuable experience and life skills through challenges in teamwork, leadership and communication, whilst being involved in CFS-focused activities. Best of all, some of these activities are just plain fun - after all, we need to not only attract but also retain young people in our organisation.

Over the past three years the cadet membership has really started to build solid foundations to ensure not only the longevity but also the growth of one of our most valued assets - *tomorrow's future leaders*.

We have seen the establishment of Regional Cadet Committees in every region and the State Cadet Committee, which now meet regularly throughout the year with elected Regional Cadet Representatives.

Regional cadet camps are also run on a regular basis. Cadets can participate in activities including bushwalking, watersports, highropes courses, navigation, team challenges and CFS firefighting skills, all of which have been very successful.

Cadets are now able to utilise their Basic Fire Fighting 1 qualification to gain units of competency for the

South Australian Certificate of Education approved by the Senior Secondary Assessment Board of South Australia in December 2004.

To be a part of a team, and acknowledged to be so, is very important, hence the introduction of the cadet casual clothing (polo shirt, jacket, baseball cap and bucket cap). This allows cadets to be easily recognised as being 'part of the CFS Cadet Brigade' particularly at the CFS State Competitions. How could you possibly miss us?

Soon to be released is the new CFS Cadet Handbook which is to say the least, colourful, interactive and certainly has the WOW factor, with every region being represented in the photo gallery.

These are just a few of the many achievements on our list, which will continue to be added to in the years to come.

The thing that impresses me the most is the teamwork and camaraderie that exists between the Cadet Leaders within each region and also the way in which they come together as a united team on a statewide basis. Their enthusiasm and dedication to developing and delivering a meaningful cadet programs is second to none!

I am very pleased to have been involved with the CFS Cadet Team throughout the past three years. Each of us knew our own specific roles. We worked hard to pull things together to make activities happen and during this process we, the leaders had fun, and the cadets had fun. Then we come back and do it all again!

I wish you all the best in the future and thank you for having me as part of the team. A very memorable experience!

## CADETS WELCOME AT BURN OFFS

New guidelines have been developed relating to the involvement of CFS cadets at burn offs.

After listening to feedback from CFS cadets and Cadet Leaders and following consultation with the cadet membership base, the CFS State Cadets Committee and the CFS State Training Committee endorsed the new guidelines in April 2006.

Careful consideration was given to safety, supervision, education and experience by inclusion and participation in developing these guidelines.

These new guidelines will allow cadets to gain valuable experience before advancing up to brigade firefighter.

Cadets have now been divided into two categories, 11 - 14.5 year olds who can attend a burn off as observers and 14.5 - 18 year olds who can now not only attend but also participate in a burn off.

### **Cadets aged 11 - 14.5 years of age.**

Cadets in this category can attend a burn off, however they can only observe.

It is strongly recommended that these cadets have received information/training from Basic Firefighter 1 (BFF1) at brigade, group or cadets.

They will need to wear personal protective equipment to the level of

overalls (no level of fire protection required) and sturdy boots (can be elastic sided).

The supervising Cadet Leader must have completed CFS level 1 or BFF1, with no more than five cadets to one supervising brigade firefighter.

The area must be deemed a 'safe refuge' area by the Officer in Charge and should the burn off turn into an incident, all cadets must return immediately to the CFS Station in a vehicle not required to immediately be involved in the incident.

Provision must be made for this in the planning process of this activity.

### **Cadets aged 14.5 - 18 years of age**

Cadets in this category can attend a burn off, and participate as long as the following criterion is met.

Each cadet involved must have completed CFS BFF1 and be dressed in Level 1 PPE (wildland firefighting garments)

There must be one supervising brigade firefighter for every two cadets, with the overall supervisor to be a brigade officer.

The Cadet Leader must have CFS Level 1 or BFF1 and operational experience.

Should the burn off turn into an incident, all cadets must return immediately to the CFS Station in a vehicle not required to immediately be involved in the incident.



# INAUGURAL REGION 3 CADET CAMP

By: Andrea Haig, Region 3 Volunteer Support Officer.

The inaugural Region 3 Cadet Camp was held on 26 – 28 May 2006 at the Roonka Scout Camp in Blanchetown.

The weekend was a huge success, with 34 cadets attending from Mannum, Tailem Bend, Pinnaroo, Meningie, Sedan and Brown's Well CFS brigades.

The cadets spent the two days involved in activities including cricket, chariot races, fishing, soccer, treasure hunts, moonball, relay races, bushwalking as well as a number of team building activities. Evening activities included karaoke, a disco, bushwalking and a campfire.

The weekend would not have been possible without the support of the 12 Cadet Leaders from these brigades who provided assistance

with activities and general supervision during the weekend, including Graham Curtis, Sedan CFS as Camp Leader and Christine Winter from Brown's Well CFS as Deputy Camp Leader.

With this camp declared a resounding success, planning is already underway for the 2007 Region 3 Cadet camp.

Thank you to all the cadets and cadet leaders involved in the weekend. It was a marvellous weekend and I am looking forward to doing this again next year.



^ The tug of war was hotly contested.  
Photo: Andrea Haig

## REGION 5 CADET CAMP 2006

By: Lachlan Suckling CFS Cadet Moorak

My stay at the Pendleton Farm began with a long bus trip from Mount Gambier to Naracoorte, where we picked up another four cadets.

After around another hour of travelling we finally arrived at the camp site.

We unpacked our gear and had a briefing of the camp rules and played a few games so we could get to know the other cadets from Region 5, before lights out at 11pm.

When we woke Saturday morning it was extremely cold and frosty and despite not wanting to get out of bed, we got going and were divided into groups of six for the weekend's activities.

Our first task was to go into a hay bale maze and collect tennis balls for the second part of the challenge, which involved catapulting tennis balls at the opposition team. The

more people you hit, the more points you got.

As a group we built a go-cart for a race on Sunday morning. The first part of the go-cart race was a drag race, the first person to get over the finish line would win. The second race was a slow race, the last person to get over the finish line would win, if you stopped you would be disqualified from the race.

The thing that I most enjoyed about the camp was the hay bale maze and canoeing.

I hope we can go back to Pendleton Farm for a bit longer next time and see all our friends from the other brigades again.



^ Some of the billy carts the groups built were very impressive.



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VOLUNTEER - CADETS



# [ ANZAC YOUTH VIGIL ] IN THE SOUTH



**By: Brian Holecek Anzac Youth Vigil in the South Event Coordinator**

**M**ore than 25 CFS cadets and leaders from Morphett Vale, Happy Valley and Kuitpo CFS attended the 4th Anzac Youth Vigil in the South, along with 155 other young people from Venturer Scouts, Guides Australia, 619 Squadron Air Force Cadets, St John Ambulance, Red Cross (save a mate Program), Police Rangers and the Air Youth of South Australia.

Held at the City Onkaparinga Memorial Gardens, the vigil enjoys strong support from the Onkaparinga

City Council, Rotary Noarlunga, Reynella Kiwanis, Over 50 's Centre and many local businesses.

As part of the vigil the cadets were required to 'stand fast' for three minutes in various spots around the memorial before marching around the memorial and taking up a new position.

The 2006 vigil saw the largest involvement with more than 130 young people participating throughout the night in 30-minute shifts.

^ Cadets at vigil  
Photo: B. Holecek

The number of young people attending this event has tripled, with many returning on a yearly basis.

The young people who paid their respects at the vigil were given the opportunity to learn more about the ANZACs and the meaning of the day this year, with Jan Ruff- O'Herne sharing her experiences as a 'comfort woman' in Singapore during World War Two, Captain Don Harding taking about his time in

Timor and several other speakers on Vietnam and World War Two.

In a past edition of *Volunteer* magazine Bob Kearney wrote on the Spirit of Anzac being alive and well within the CFS.

The strong involvement of our youth in this vigil really highlights that the Anzac Spirit does live on in the heart of the CFS, as they pay tribute to the youth of yesterday who shaped the freedom we have in Australia today.

## [ADELAIDE ANZAC YOUTH VIGIL]

**By: Josh Van Loenen, Tilley Swamp Cadet Co-ordinator**

**O**n 24 April six cadets from Region 5, accompanied by supervisors, traveled to Adelaide to participate in this year's ANZAC Day Vigil.

Having undertaken special training to prepare for the event, the cadets from Tilley Swamp, Naracoorte and Mount Gambier CFS eagerly made the five-hour trip to participate in the event held at the War Memorial on the corner of North Terrace and Kintore Avenue in Adelaide.

Starting at 6pm on Anzac eve, the cadets each 'marched a watch' for 30 minutes every two hours alongside cadets from other organisations, including the Australian Army, Royal Australian Navy, SA Police, State Emergency Service, SA Lifesavers and St Johns.

One CFS cadet assisted as an Honor Guard at the entrance to the memorial, whilst another was an

escort for the dignitaries, including the Mayor of Adelaide and the Governor General.

The cadets were able to stand down when the Dawn Service commenced at 6am on Anzac Day.

The Returned Services League (RSL) has expressed their thanks for the support and participation of so many young people and the ongoing involvement of the CFS cadets.

Congratulations to Kerry McCombe, Emma Freemantle, Sam and Matt Drummond, Braden Fisher and Alex VanRijn for their outstanding efforts, and to Jenny Newlyn, Chris McCombe, Debbie and Geoff Drummond, and Shane Smith who assisted as supervisors.

We must also recognise and thank Julie Francis as the Youth Programs Officer at SAFECOM, for her efforts in organising this, including breakfast at McDonalds.

<< Region 5 Cadets at ANZAC Vigil Photo: Josh Van Loenen





## [ROAD CRASH RESCUE DEMONSTRATION AT ARNO BAY]

**By: Yvonne Britza, Cadet Coordinator and Training Officer Arno Bay CFS**

**M**onday 20 March saw Cowell CFS travel to Arno Bay to provide the local CFS brigade, cadets and onlookers with a demonstration of their road crash rescue equipment.

With an audience of more than 15 people, the volunteers from Cowell CFS talked about the different tools they use in a road crash rescue, explaining how they use each piece of equipment and the specific jobs they are used for.

Our Captain kindly donated his little blue car for the demonstration,

and it was certainly a shadow of its former self once the demonstration of the equipment had been completed. It really highlighted just how effective the tools are at cutting into a vehicle to assist in freeing a trapped passenger.

Thank you to Cowell CFS for making the hour round trip and taking the time to come and demonstrate their skills for us.

After the demonstration we enjoyed supper and drinks together and were able to socialise and have a few laughs.



^ The Captain's little blue car resembled a convertible after the demonstration.  
Photo: Yvonne Britza

## [CEDUNA CFS LEARN ABSEILING]

**By: Bradleigh Karam, Ceduna CFS**

**O**n Monday 20 March, a number of cadets and firefighters from Ceduna CFS joined forces with their local SES for a thrilling day of abseiling at Alexander's Cliffs.

The 11 cadets and seven firefighters enjoyed every moment of the day and would like to thank Mike Haines, Richard Bach and Brett Dazel from SES for their time and efforts.

The brave venturers were cadets Bradley McKay, Michael Page, Travis Goodwin, Kaitlin Kavanagh, Amy-Lee Gent, Todd Montgomerie, Stacey Thomas, Hayley Zippel, Kelsey Kavanagh, Jayden Paues and

Kimberly Akkerman. Firefighters, Sharon Urbanski, Corey Lucas, Bradleigh Karam, Jason McKay, Amanda Urbanski, Jason Montgomerie and Michelle Baker.

The cadets were also involved in some firefighting activities under the watchful eye of representatives from Fire and Equipment Maintenance. The cadets were given a sound overview of the fire tetrahedron and were introduced to A and B (etc) fires. From there it was onto the practical aspect of their visit, as they learnt how to use fire extinguishers and fire blankets.

>> Don't look down!

✓ The cadets were involved in some practical firefighting activities.



## [REGION 4 CADET CAMP 2006]

**By: Alan Gilchrist, Stirling North CFS**

**M**ore than 40 Cadets and 10 supervisors from Region 4 attended a CFS cadet camp at Spear Creek Tourism Centre, around 18 kilometres to the south east of Port Augusta from 19 - 21 May.

Cadets came from Andamooka CFS, Woomera CFS, Stirling North CFS, Iron Knob CFS, Burra Districts CFS & Yongala CFS, with a number of them travelling quite some distance to attend.

The camp was a 'bush camp', with accommodation provided in tents and swags.

The weather was cool but a large

bonfire kept everyone warm and provided a central point where everyone got to know each other.

Activities were provided by the Port Augusta Outdoor Adventure Centre, who kept the cadets entertained with orienteering, stretcher/ shelter building activities, as well as some fun team games.

On the Saturday night the group enjoyed some 'open air' movies on a big screen.

A great time was had by all and it is planned to make a camp an annual event, perhaps at a different location next time.







## CADETS ENJOY CAMP IN THE ADELAIDE HILLS

By: Jennifer Oates

**A**wesome', 'Cool', 'Fantastic' and 'Fun' were all words used to describe the Region 1 Cadet Camp, held from 21-23 April at the Adelaide Hills Wilderness Lodge.

Over 80 cadets and leaders from across Region 1 participated in the camp, which involved CFS skill-based activities to keep the cadets busy all weekend, and was run entirely by cadet coordinators from the region.

On Friday night after some introductions, the cadets and leaders set off on a night hike, completing activities along the way, and getting 'directionally confused' as we went.

On Saturday and Sunday mornings the cadets, dressed in their PPE, underwent a briefing before racing down the hill to their activities. The cadets participated in a series of activities, including setting up a Decontamination Zone around a hazardous substance, developing their communications skills, participating in a 5-Man Attack and constructing a shelter to withstand 'hurricane-force' weather conditions.

After lunch on Saturday we welcomed several guests to the camp. The Adelaide Hills SES Unit came along to have a chat about what the SES do and how the CFS

works with them to serve the community. The cadets also had an opportunity to participate in a line-search exercise.

The happy campers also received a visit from the HeliAir HeliTanker. After an up-close look the cadets also had an opportunity to try and stump the pilots with the trickiest questions they could think of, and the winner of the best question got a chance to sit in the pilot's seat.

After some free time in the afternoon, Euan Ferguson, Chief Officer and Mark Thomason, Region 1 Commander joined the cadets for dinner. The cadets were thrilled and listened attentively while Euan discussed the value of cadets to the future of the CFS, before he joined in the evening's festivities of music and games.

Time soon flew by and after all of these activities it was time for the cadets to pack up, break camp, say farewell for now and return home after a great weekend of CFS and other fun activities, different experiences, new skills and great friendships.

The camp organisers breathed a sigh of relief that it was all over and everything had run smoothly (well, with only a few minor hiccups.) The



^ There were plenty of smiling faces after the Region 1 Cadet Camp.

question on the lips of the cadets ever since has been... when is the next camp?

The Region 1 Cadet Committee is grateful for the support received

from many parties to run the camp. It enabled us to provide the cadets with this great opportunity, and at the same time enjoying the time they are putting into their community.

## LIGHT GROUP CADET FIELD DAY

By: By Light Group Cadet Coordinator's.

**A**round 15 cadets from the Light Group held their annual Field Day on 11 June at the Sheaoak Log CFS station.

The cadets representing Freeling, Roseworthy and Sheaoak Log CFS started the day with a parade at 10am, before sitting down to plan their camps and activities for the remainder of the year.

After around one-and-a-half hours of solid discussion, the group had developed their list of desired activities – this was a great team building exercise for them.

The first activity they nominated was to build a Billie cart and race it

against the other brigades. The group also established where the next camp would be held and what activities they'd like to be involved in.

A tug of war challenge was held, before settling down for lunch where the outcome of the tug of war was hotly debated. Most were unsure who actually won and who may have (perhaps) been not quite playing by the rules.

After lunch the younger cadets were given the opportunity to use a water extinguisher, while the senior cadets helped set up for the five-man step-up gas prop exercise.

They were asked to sink a standpipe and set up two 64mm hoses from the hydrant and connect them to the appliance.

Once the gas prop was set up, all the cadets were given instructions on what hot and cold zones were, and what they could expect from watching this exercise.

The cadets then watched from the cold zone as senior firefighters demonstrated how to do the five-man step up, and the importance of flame bending.

All cadets thoroughly enjoyed these exercises and from there packed up and debriefed the day.



^ Cadets fell into parade at 10am.



# FACES IN THE CROWD

SPEAKING WITH

## [ MARK HEWITSON ]

By: Brenton Ragless

If you think responding to incidents takes up too much out of your day, spare a thought for Ceduna Group Officer, Mark Hewitson. Sometimes it can take half a day for he and his volunteers to arrive at the scene of an incident.

"The Golden Hour doesn't apply out here. Sometimes we have vehicle accidents that occur four or even five hours away," Mark said.

"So, we've got plenty of time to argue who'll do the traffic control!"

"Not only does it take us half a day to arrive but sometimes it takes us half a day before we're even told about the job. People may not come across incidents for hours, particularly if it's a vehicle that's crashed on a road less travelled.

"Often it's the tourists who want to experience the outback that have the accidents. We see a few in the town that we inevitably meet up with them again on the road if they run into trouble," he said.

"I don't know why they call it the Nullarbor Plain because it's anything but that. It is one of Australia's unique landscapes where the desert meets the sea.

"You get use to it but sometimes one incident can take up more than two days to complete. I've worn out my Neil Diamond collection a few times over."

The area Mark's Group covers is approximately 110,000 square km – the equivalent area of driving from Port Augusta to Naracoorte. Most of it is National Park with limited access, but like many brigades located on a National Highway, it is the highway that keeps them busy..

The Ceduna Group would also be one of the first ports of call for incidents on the transcontinental railway line between Adelaide and Perth.

"The logistics to respond to such an incident is challenging, not forgetting the remote isolated area, no water, no facilities and many hours away," Mark said.

"Remnants from a major derailment at Mount Christie that occurred in the late 1990's, is a stark reminder of what can happen."

Mark has been the Group Officer at Ceduna for five years but his history with the CFS dates back to when he first joined in 1974 as a cadet for the Smithfield Brigade at the age of 12.

"My mother and two brothers were members and the fire station was just two doors down so, even if I didn't want to get involved, I don't think I had the choice!"

Over Mark's 32-year history with the CFS, Mark has also been a member of the Hamley Bridge and Balaklava Brigades.

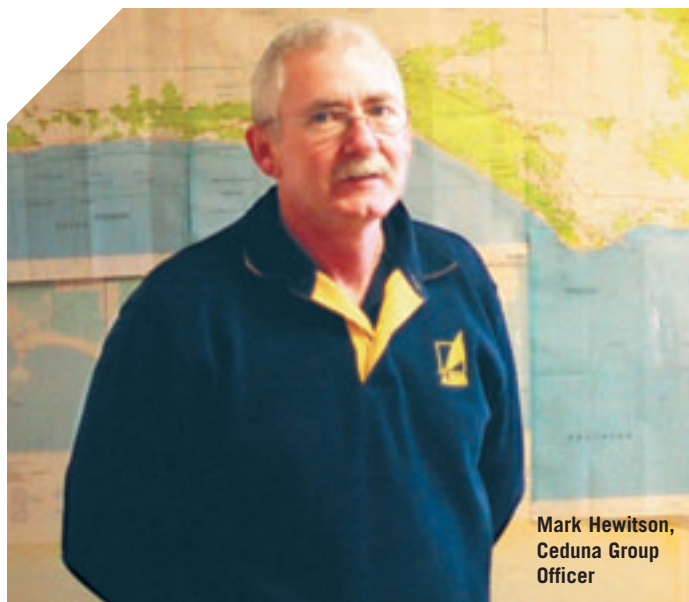
He attended both Ash Wednesday fires and has seen the fire service go through some significant development.

However, like many other CFS groups and brigades, the Ceduna Group is finding it difficult to retain volunteers and keep up with community expectations.

"No one would deny that the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) has brought about some desperately needed changes for the CFS. Brigades are more equipped now than they ever have been.

"However, in some cases, I feel it has brought about a lack of community understanding and ownership that was once shared between local councils, its ratepayers and the CFS.

"Previous to the levy, CFS brigades were entirely funded by local councils with the exception of donations



Mark Hewitson,  
Ceduna Group  
Officer

made by the local community. Therefore the levy wasn't seen as an extra tax as it was hidden in the council rates and the CFS was genuinely regarded as a non-profit volunteer based community service.

"But ever since residents started receiving a bill in the mail for the ESL, separate to the council rates, there has been a rise in community expectation. Because they are personally paying for a service, they therefore have an expectation of that service.

"Some public see the CFS as just another service provider, forgetting that they are volunteers who willingly donate their time to the community.

"When I started out at Smithfield, members of the local council were also brigade members and were encouraged to attend callouts on during office hours. It was a good way for them to appreciate the needs of the service.

"The CFS has a major challenge ahead, servicing not only community expectations, but also

the rapidly expanding mining industry within the state. I believe some traditional ways of operations and structures will need to be challenged to full fill this need."

Even the biggest day of the year on the Ceduna Calendar – the Ceduna Oyster Festival – keeps Mark and his dedicated group of volunteers busy.

"We'll provide fire cover for the fireworks, assist in car parking and sometimes we'll even put on a display. It's a big event for the town and a major draw card for visitors."

The Ceduna Oyster Festival is held on the October Long Weekend and attracts about 2,000 visitors every year.

So, what's the local tip on oysters? "Have them natural, straight out of the water. And if you haven't had one natural before, squeeze a little bit of lemon juice on first," Mark suggested.

"But if you like them cooked, cook them in their own juices on the barbecue. After the lid opens, give them a couple minutes longer and they're ready."



# THANK YOU



Government of  
South Australia

## DR G.B. ALCORN - THANKS

I really wished to write to commend all the CFS crews who attended the vehicle accident in late February 2006.

The whole scene was well managed with each service carrying out their own responsibilities quietly and efficiently and yet providing back up for the other services when they needed help.

I have attended many accident scenes over the years, and think that this scene was one of the best organised that I have attended.

If not for the reality of the injuries and the severity of the damage, I would have assessed this as a well organised training exercise.

Would you please convey my thanks to all the crews involved – their calmness, friendliness and efficiency ensured that my adrenaline level remained tolerable throughout the time I spent at the scene.

Yours sincerely,  
DR G.B. Alcorn  
Riverton

## MAX FATCHEN - THANK YOU

Dear Roger, It has been my intention to write for a long time to express my pride and congratulations to you for the dedicated work as Captain of Dalkeith Brigade and also of the men and women who form your volunteers.

It is my pride to be a life patron of your brigade and I have known so many of the great people who have formed it over the years.

I remember how we sent units to help in New South Wales and how the everyday catastrophes are attended by your members and the great work they do.

Unfortunately infirmities of age prevent me attending your annual meeting but Brenton Henschke keeps me informed. He too is a dedicated officer of the CFS.

I know the great responsibility you bear as captain and how it must impinge in your daily life but this is the true essence of public service and that without the dedication of yourself and indeed your members our society would truly benefit.

Sometimes we must forgo things we wish to do, sometimes a call comes and you and your brigade members must go out to attend one more flood, or fire, or one more tragic accident.

This surely can deeply affect you and often one's family feels this. Let me assure you that many of us so much admire what you do.

There are selfish people who wouldn't lift a hand themselves but to criticise the CFS, disregarding the fact that these men and women and their officers, such as yourself, sometimes put their lives on the line because they have a sense of responsibility to their fellow human beings.

As a leading journalist and writer who has seen great disasters including the assassination of an American President, the atomic bomb, wars and other happenings, it is firmly of my opinion that CFS ranks tremendously high with the many brave and enthusiastic bodies in our society.

I suppose you ask yourself the question whether it is all worthwhile?

Let me tell you from deep experience that you remain people of great importance to the service of humanity and on that I, seeing the world through the eyes of a journalist, am honoured to acknowledge and to continue to express my pride as being a small part of a great brigade.

I remember my great friends such as Viv Chapman a sterling character and many others including the late Trish Varney whose service in spite of illness remains an exemplary example, as does that of her sister.

This letter then is to thank you for your leadership, service and sacrifice and to thank the men and women of your brigade. Would you convey to them my great pride in my association with you all. You are important and dedicated people whom we should all acknowledge.

Yours sincerely, Max Fatchen AM  
Honorary Life Patron Dalkeith CFS Brigade  
Journalist, Author

## THANK YOU FROM BULL CREEK ROAD

This is a belated 'thank you' to all the organisations involved in lending assistance at a fire at lot 6, Old Bull Creek Road, Meadows, the home of the Cherry family.

In attendance were too many fire appliances to mention, the ambulance personnel and somewhat controversially, police and the fire investigation officer.

The was fire was on the 31st of August.

Through what was apparently a freak occurrence due to a flash of lightning our loft was very quickly alight and within a few minutes (the time it takes to realise the sudden loss of electricity will have to be investigated and fuse box inspected!) our house was well alight.

On summons from my daughter on the telephone, a unit was quickly on hand (I think initially from Strathalbyn) and the flames being addressed on the roof.

The night was wet but more importantly very windy, and quite

cold, but several more fire units, water tankers and paramedical officers administered splendid and conscientious skills to (a) extinguish the fire, and (b) ensure it stayed out.

After a long night a skeleton crew was still clattering about when we awoke from a short sleep.

Thank goodness you were all there – Thank you.

Apologies are extended for the lateness of this letter.

Yours faithfully  
Clive Cherry

✓ More than \$200 000 damage was caused to the home  
Photo: Mount Barker Courier



## EMU DOWNS FIRE - THANKS

Please pass on our heartfelt thanks for the fantastic job the CFS did in extinguishing the fire on our Emu Downs property on Saturday 21 January.

The way so many from so far pitched in was truly humbling.

Difficult terrain, adverse weather conditions and high fuel loads do not make it easy conditions in which to fight a fire. I think the whole district

was holding their breath lest it turned into a disaster and are as thankful as we are of the huge effort put in.

Once again, to all the men and women in the field and behind the scenes coordinating, to those supplying food and water, the heavy equipment and especially the helicopters – a huge thank you.

Wayne and Helen Thomas  
Manoora



## KEEP THOSE CAMERAS SNAPPING!

Send your photos into Volunteer and help everyone reminisce, laugh and show the CFS at its best.

You could win a mystery prize to the value of \$50 by entering the Volunteer photo competition.

# PHAMOUS PHOTOS

### CONDITIONS OF ENTRY:

1. The competition is open to amateur photographers only.
2. Photographs may be of any subject but must either include CFS personnel in turnout gear or uniform, or include CFS events or incidents attended by CFS brigades.
3. Photographs must have been taken by the entrant and the photograph or its negative must not be enhanced by computer or other means.
4. The size of each photograph must not exceed 210 x 295mm (A4 size).
5. Only one entry per person per quarterly competition.
6. All entries become the property of the CFS. The CFS may use the entry for any of its non-profit publications or displays with due acknowledgment made of the photographer.
7. Please enclose your name, address, brigade (if applicable), telephone number and a description of the photo on a separate sheet of paper.



^ Working in steep terrain at Willunga in January 2006  
Photo: Forbes Thompson, Blackwood CFS

<<

Preparing to battle the flames at Willunga in January 2006.

Photo: Forbes Thompson, Blackwood CFS



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VOLUNTEER - PHAMOUS PHOTOS





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VOLUNTEER - PHAMOUS PHOTOS



<< Training with flammable tanks at Brukung  
**Photo:** Jason Sabeeney, Mount Pleasant CFS



^ Mudla Wirra CFS, along with SES, pumping water from around a house on one side of a road to the other. We pumped for 8 to 9 hours, moving close to 250,000 litres of floodwater a distance of no more than 10 metres  
**Photo:** Rick Curnow, Mudla Wirra CFS



# PHAMOUS PHOTOS

✓ Winning the battle at Horocks Pass.  
Photo: Jeff Bowey



✓ Car fire at Region 5 Training Centre.  
Photo: Sarah Yelland

>> Having a fun day  
with the CFS at  
the Novita  
Convoy for Kids.  
Photo: Ashley  
Thompson  
Salisbury CFS



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VOLUNTEER - PHAMOUS PHOTOS



# PHAMOUS PHOTOS



<< Lighting up the sky, gas bullet training at Region 5 Training Centre.  
Photo: Sarah Yelland



<< Mudla Wirra CFS training at Adelaide University, Roseworthy Agricultural Campus (8 May 2006) performing a five man attack with full fog patterns attacking a live running fuel fire scenario (diesel/petrol mix running over corrugated iron into a split 44 gallon drum).

✓ I think someone had a whooopsy!  
Photo: Anonymous

^ A 180 degree wind shift saw CFS move quickly during the Kangaroo Island fires earlier this year.  
Photo: Graham Houghton, Mylor CFS



^ Two Compton CFS volunteers working on the roof at a house fire on Bishop Road, Mount Gambier.



^ Now that's one way to keep the river level up!  
Photo: Linda Alderslade, Sheaoak Log CFS



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VOLUNTEER - PHAMOUS PHOTOS

WINNER



## SA COUNTRY FIRE SERVICE STATE HEADQUARTERS

Level 7, 60 Waymouth Street, Adelaide  
GPO Box 2468, Adelaide SA 5001  
T: 08 8463 4200  
F: 08 8463 4234  
E: [cfsHQ@cfs.org.au](mailto:cfsHQ@cfs.org.au)  
W: [www.cfs.org.au](http://www.cfs.org.au)  
CFS Bushfire Information Hotline: 1300 362 361

## REGIONAL OFFICES

### REGION 1

Mount Lofty Ranges and Kangaroo Island  
75 Gawler Street, Mount Barker SA 5251  
T: 08 8391 1866  
F: 08 8391 1877  
E: [cfsr1@cfs.org.au](mailto:cfsr1@cfs.org.au)

### REGION 2

Mount Lofty Ranges, Yorke Peninsula  
and Lower North  
8 Redbanks Road, Willaston SA 5118  
T: 08 8522 6088  
F: 08 8522 6404  
E: [cfsr2@cfs.org.au](mailto:cfsr2@cfs.org.au)

### REGION 3

Murraylands and Riverland  
Corner of Second Street and Seventh Street  
Murray Bridge SA 5253  
T: 08 8532 6800  
F: 08 8532 6220  
E: [cfsr3@cfs.org.au](mailto:cfsr3@cfs.org.au)

### REGION 4

Flinders, Mid North and Pastoral areas  
3 Main Street, Port Augusta SA 5700  
T: 08 8642 2399  
F: 08 8641 0176  
E: [cfsr4@cfs.org.au](mailto:cfsr4@cfs.org.au)

### REGION 5

South East  
46 Smith Street, Naracoorte SA 5271  
T: 08 8762 2311  
F: 08 8762 1865  
E: [cfsr5@cfs.org.au](mailto:cfsr5@cfs.org.au)

### REGION 6

Eyre Peninsula and West Coast  
Level 1, Jobomi House  
48 Liverpool Street, Port Lincoln SA 5606  
T: 08 8682 4266  
F: 08 8682 6569  
E: [cfsr6@cfs.org.au](mailto:cfsr6@cfs.org.au)

### STATE TRAINING CENTRE (BRUKUNGA)

6 Pyrites Road, Brukunga SA 5252  
T: 08 8398 9900  
F: 08 8388 6997  
E: [cfsrtrain@cfs.org.au](mailto:cfsrtrain@cfs.org.au)

### SOUTH AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADES ASSOCIATION

17 Worriga Street, Regency Park SA 5010  
T: 08 8244 6500  
F: 08 8244 6400  
E: [admin@savfba.org.au](mailto:admin@savfba.org.au)  
W: [www.savfba.org.au](http://www.savfba.org.au)

**VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT BRANCH**  
1300 364 587

# CONTACT DETAILS

## VOLUNTEER [ MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS ]

The mailing database for *Volunteer* magazine has been integrated into the CFS Training and Administrative System (TAS).

This means that subscribing to receive *Volunteer* magazine has never been easier.

All CFS volunteers are able to receive *Volunteer* magazine and can subscribe to receive the magazine through the following means.

- By contacting CFS Public Affairs via email at [publicaffairs@cfs.org.au](mailto:publicaffairs@cfs.org.au) or via the CFS Media Line on 08 8463 4206. (Please supply your full name and postal address.)
- By making the request through your Regional Headquarters.
- By indicating on your TAS Membership Update Form that you wish to receive *Volunteer* magazine.
- By submitting a subscription form, which will shortly be sent to each brigade, to CFS Public Affairs or your Regional Headquarters.

If you change your mailing address, the *Volunteer* magazine database will automatically be updated when you notify your Regional Headquarters.

To cancel a subscription simply contact your Regional Headquarters/ CFS Public Affairs and request the subscription be cancelled. This can be done via phone or email.

Non-CFS volunteers can access a copy of *Volunteer* magazine from the CFS website, visit [www.cfs.org.au](http://www.cfs.org.au) and look under About Us > Publications.



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